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MINUTES

OF THE

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

14 - 28 January, 1973

Meeting held in Bangalore, India

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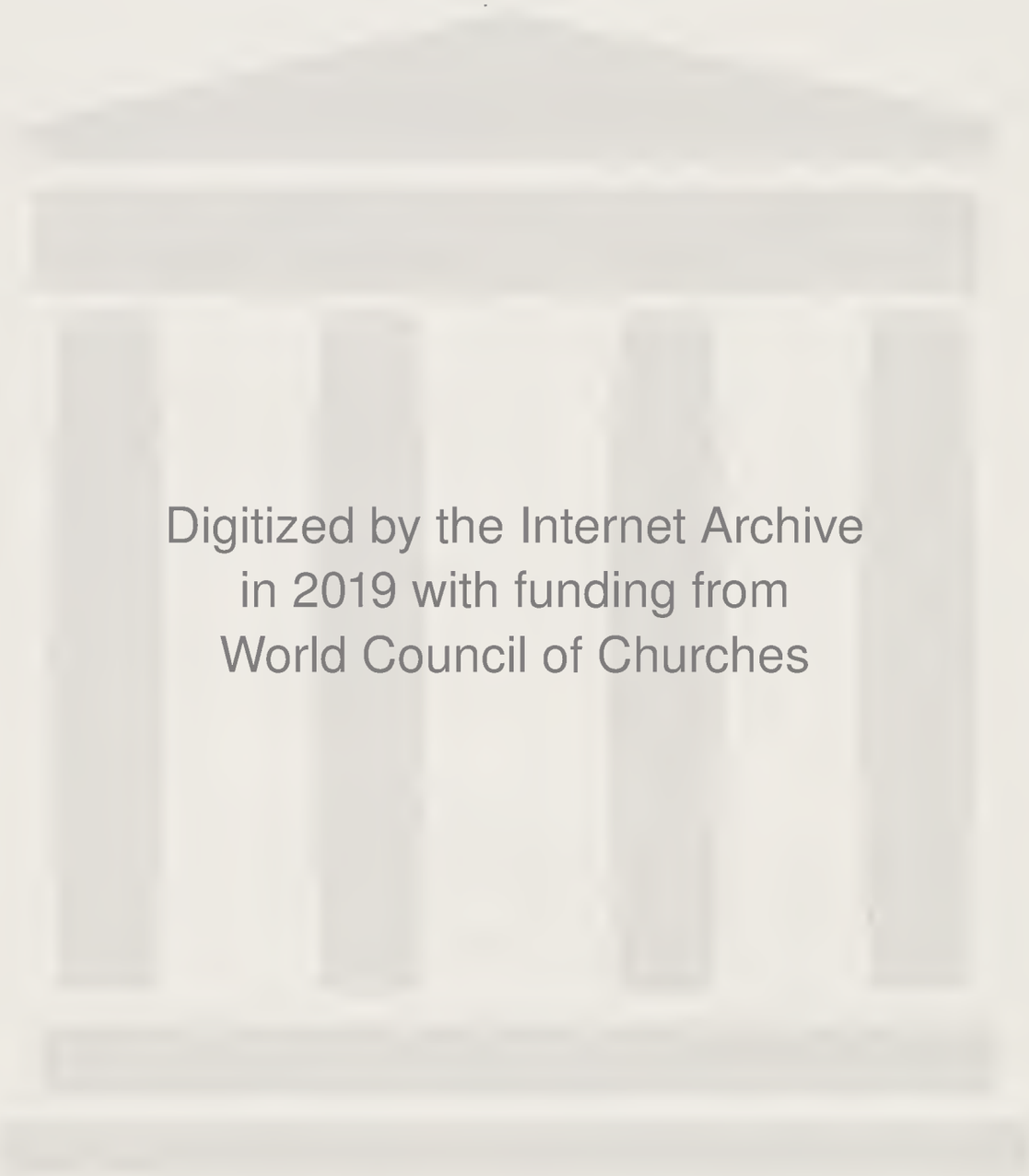

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WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - Bangalore, India

14 - 18 January, 1973

PRESENT:

Presidents:	Dr (Mrs) K.T. Cho	
	Rev. Dr E.A. Payne	
Officers:	Dr M.M. Thomas	(Chairman)
	Miss P.M. Webb	(Vice-Chairman)
	Dr P.A. Potter	(General Secretary)
Members:	Rev. Dr I.B. Bokeleale	
	Pastor K. Gottschald	
	Mr D.E. Johnson	
	Rev. J. Langhoff	
	Professor Dr J.M. Lochman	
	Rt. Hon. Earl of March	
	Rev. Dr R.J. Marshall	
	Bishop Dr R.C. Nichols	
	Rev. Dr J. Rossel	
	Professor T. Sabev	
	Bishop K. Sarkissian	
	General T.B. Simatupang	
Consultants:	Archimandrite Kyrill	
	President D.A. Wischmann	
Guest:	Rev. M.A. Thomas	

Staff:

Executive -	Rev. E. Castro	Dr B. Sjollema
	Mr J. Fischer	Dr E.L. Smith
	Rev. D. Gill	Miss F. Smith
	Canon D. Jenkins	Mr J. Taylor
	Dr L. Niilus	Rev. J.J. Thomsen
	Mr F. Northam	Dr L. Vischer
	Rev. H. Perkins	Mr R. Young
	Dr S. Samartha	
	Rev. W. Simpfendörfer	
Interpreters -	Dr M. Wieser	Mr Hoerschelman
	Fr. S. Hackel	
	Mrs M. Tawil-Saad	
Administrative -	Miss V.G. Cant	
	Mrs D. Fernandez	
	Miss A. Henderson	
	Miss U. Schütz	

APOLOGIES

His Holiness Patriarch German of Serbia
Rt. Rev. Bishop Hanns Lilje
Rev. Dr J. Coventry Smith
Rt. Rev. A.H. Zulu
Rev. Dr W.A. Visser 't Hooft
Mr Juan V. Faune
His Eminence Metropolitan Meliton
His Eminence Metropolitan Nikodim
Dr R. von Weizsäcker
Mrs J. Wesonga

MEMBERSHIP OF SUB-COMMITTEES

Finance Sub-Committee

Rt. Hon. Earl of March (Chairman)
Rev. Dr R.J. Marshall
Bishop Dr R.C. Nichols
Professor Dr J.M. Lochman
Mr J.V. Faune (absent)
Dr R. von Weizsäcker (absent)
Metropolitan Meliton (absent)
Pastor K. Gottschald
Mrs J. Wesonga (absent)

Staffing and Nomination Sub-Committee

Bishop K. Sarkissian (Chairman)
Rev. Dr I.B. Bokeleale
Mr D.E. Johnson
Pastor J. Langhoff
Metropolitan Nikodim (absent)
Rev. Dr J. Rossel
Professor T. Sabev
General T.B. Simatupang
Miss P.M. Webb

Priorities Sub-Committee

Bishop Dr R.C. Nichols (Chairman)
Rev. Dr I.B. Bokeleale
Mr D.E. Johnson
Professor Dr J.M. Lochman
Bishop K. Sarkissian

ex officio:

Rt. Hon. Earl of March (Chairman, Finance Sub-Committee)
President D.A. Wischmann (Vice-Chairman, Finance Sub-Committee)
Dr M.M. Thomas (Chairman, Central Committee)
Miss P.M. Webb (Vice-Chairman, Central Committee)
Metropolitan Meliton (Vice-Chairman, Central Committee)
Dr P.A. Potter (General Secretary)

The Finance Sub-Committee and the Staffing and Nomination Sub-Committee held two sessions on Sunday, 14 January and one session on Tuesday, 16 January. The Programme Priorities Sub-Committee met on the afternoons of 15 and 17 January. In view of Bishop Sarkissian's late arrival Miss Webb took the chair in the Staffing and Nomination Sub-Committee for the first two sessions, at the request of the Chairman of the Executive.

WORSHIP

Opening worship on Monday, 15 January, was led by Dr M.M. Thomas. During the course of the meeting morning prayers were taken by Bishop R.C. Nichols, Pastor J. Langhoff and Lord March. The closing session of worship was led by Miss Pauline Webb.

1. Roll Call

The General Secretary called the roll of those present. Dr Thomas welcomed Pastor Langhoff who was present in the Committee for the first time. He also extended a special welcome to Dr Potter in his new capacity as General Secretary, and to the Rev. Emilio Castro who had succeeded Dr Potter as Director of the Commission on World Mission and Evangelism. Dr Thomas said it gave him particular pleasure to entertain the members of the Committee in Bangalore, his home city.

2. Membership of the Committee

The Chairman said that Archimandrite Kyrill, who was present as a Consultant, would also represent Metropolitan Nikodim who was prevented by illness from attending the meeting; as "substitutes" are specifically disallowed by the Rules for the Executive, this representation will carry all the privileges of membership except the right to vote. President D.A. Wischmann was also present as a Consultant, and the Rev. M.A. Thomas, Warden of the Ecumenical Christian Centre in which the meetings were being held, as Guest.

3. Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held in Utrecht on 12 August 1972, having been previously circulated, were confirmed. Archimandrite Kyrill raised a question about the wording of Minute 6(d). The Chairman explained that the minute had been drafted by Metropolitan Nikodim and Dr Payne and had been adopted by the Committee in the form in which it was printed, and clarified the meaning of the provisions.

4. Report of the General Secretary

The Chairman called on the General Secretary who reported as follows:

a) The numerous letters and telegrams he had received on his election from all over the world and from people of many

confessions, including Roman Catholics, had revealed widespread interest in the life and work of the World Council. In the many interviews he had had with the press and on radio and television, there had been much concern about the stands taken by the Council on public issues. It had been suggested that the Council seemed to express selective indignation and had failed to take into account other issues of public concern. He himself was intrigued by the selective questioning by interviewers. This poses a problem about the ways in which the Council communicates the totality of its work to the churches and the world.

b) Dr Potter gave a brief summary of visits carried out since the last meeting both by Dr Blake, before his retirement, and by himself since November 1. Notable among these was a visit in December to the new Ecumenical Patriarch Demetrios. He had several meetings with the Patriarch and with members of the Synod, particularly on ways in which the Orthodox churches can participate more actively in the Council, not least on the staff. During a visit to North America, Dr Potter had a useful meeting with the UN Secretary General, Dr. Kurt Waldheim. There had also been a significant visit to Geneva in September by President Heinemann of the Federal Republic of Germany. The President, who had been an old friend of the Council, discussed the issues of Human Rights with the staff, and supported the Programme to Combat Racism both in his public address and later by a personal gift to the Fund. Several Vatican representatives had also visited Geneva over the months for consultation of common concerns like SODEPAX, Human Rights and the Joint Working Group.

c) Dr Potter then referred to a number of difficult public issues that his colleagues and himself had had to deal with since Utrecht. Dr Blake had issued a strong statement on the Munich killings, deploring the resort to such violent means by the Palestinians and also drawing attention to their plight. Much had been done, especially by Canon Burgess Carr, General Secretary of the All Africa Conference of Churches, to counsel moderation by the Uganda government in their handling of the expulsion of Indians. The resumption of massive bombing of North Vietnam after the proposals of October 26 for a cease fire had aroused worldwide indignation. Dr Potter had written personally to President Nixon. The escalation of the bombing to unprecedented proportions towards the end of the year provoked strong statements by church leaders in the USA and by the Bangkok Conference on Salvation Today. The Committee would have to deal with the recommendations made to it by the latter. One matter which required immediate action was a request that the Executive Committee, at the beginning of the forthcoming Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, would urge all Christians to include intercessions for the suffering people of Vietnam. As regards the situation in South Africa, letters had been received about an alleged meeting of representatives of the Council and leaders of member churches in Nairobi in February or March, 1973. There had been no agreement about any such meeting, but the Committee would have to consider how relations with the

South African member churches could be improved. Dr Blake and himself had earlier addressed a letter to the President of Uruguay concerning the retention of political prisoners without trial and their alleged torture. Leaders of member churches had lately written to ask that investigation be made of reports of imprisonment and persecution of Pentecostals in Ethiopia.

d) Dr Potter then commented on the significance of the CWME Conference on Salvation Today which had just been held at Bangkok. It had been a living example of the commitment to fellowship of the churches. Perhaps for the first time there had been an encounter on equal terms between Christians from the North and from the South. There had been a deep going sharing of the experience of Salvation by the participants, especially in the small groups, and at the same time a serious confrontation on the political, racial and social tensions of our time. Two issues had emerged in the discussions which will be of importance for the work of the Council, and for our preparation for the next Assembly. They were the fact of power, its nature and use, not least by the churches and Christian agencies, and the question of how we confess our faith in and between differing cultures. A number of recommendations from the Bangkok meeting would be before the Committee, including statements on Vietnam, Southern Africa and relations with China.

The Chairman thanked Dr Potter for his report and called for comments or questions. Attention, in the brief discussion which followed, centred mainly on the possibility of action regarding certain public issues. It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the following be asked to consult together on matters concerning human rights on which action might be desirable: Dr E.A. Payne (Chairman), Dr K.T. Cho, Pastor J. Langhoff, Dr R.J. Marshall, Dr J. Rossel and General T.B. Simatupang.

5. Appeal for prayer for the people of Vietnam

On behalf of the special sub-committee Dr Payne proposed the adoption of the following cable to be sent to Geneva, New York and Rome for distribution:

> At the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity we call upon all Christians to include in their common prayers intercession for the suffering people in Vietnam and for the establishment of peace in Indochina. The ongoing war involves the responsibility of Christians in all countries and as we pray for the unity of the Church we need to renew our commitment to bring about peace with justice. We invite you to take every possible initiative in your situation to promote the cause of peace.

It was AGREED that the cable be approved.

6. The Fifth Assembly

a) Practical arrangements

General Simatupang presented a report of the Central Committee of the Council of Churches in Indonesia regarding preparations for the Fifth Assembly (see Appendix I). As he saw it, the two main needs were to inform the Churches in Indonesia about the ecumenical movement and to inform the member churches of the World Council about the work of the Indonesian churches. He did not foresee great difficulty in regard to practical arrangements, but it would be necessary for the WCC to decide on the type of accommodation required. Two possibilities existed. Use could be made of the facilities available at the International Athletes Village or alternatively the delegates could be housed in hotels. There should be no problem about a suitable meeting place since work had already started on the new conference hall which would provide ample accommodation for all the needs of the Assembly. General Simatupang answered a number of questions raised by members regarding the accommodation offered. He assured the Committee that the rooms at the Athletes Village were comfortable and well equipped though they were not air conditioned. If this accommodation was agreed upon there was a possibility of taking hotel rooms for those who for health reasons required facilities not available in the Village. Precise figures regarding the cost of hotel accommodation as against the alternative proposal could be obtained. Several people stressed the importance of taking into account the Bangkok experience in planning the Assembly. It would be unwise to impose a western style agenda and time-table for a meeting to be held under Asian conditions and in a humid climate.

b) Theme of the Assembly

Dr Stanley Samartha spoke to a paper prepared by a staff group on Assembly preparations set up following the Utrecht meeting of Central Committee (see Appendix II). The group had not felt able to formulate a precise theme at the present stage but the following alternatives had been proposed: Set free by Christ, Christ sets us free, or Called to freedom. The same observation applied to the selection of biblical passages but, as suggested at Utrecht, it was thought that Luke 4:14-21, might be the key passage, supplemented by other passages including 2 Cor. 3:17-18. The selection of significant topics had been difficult and Dr Samartha outlined two alternative proposals which were discussed by the Committee at some length (see Appendix II, p. 56).

It was finally agreed that a sub-committee should be set up to consider and report to a later session on (a) the style of the Assembly in the light of the recent experience at Bangkok, (b) the theme of the Assembly, and (c) the preparatory processes. The following were asked to serve: Dr J. Rossel (Chairman), Dr K.T. Cho, Archimandrite Kyrill, Rev. J. Bokeleale, Dr Lochman,

General Simatupang and Miss P.M. Webb, with Dr Potter and Dr Samartha.

c) Report of the sub-committee

At a later session Dr Rossel presented the following report of the sub-committee:

A. Evaluation of the Bangkok Conference on Salvation Today with regard to the relationships between content and methodology: (a) The three days' sharing in groups of about 20 participants through Bible studies, artistic expressions, meditation on the main theme (Salvation Today) was an enrichment for all participants and gave to the conference its main orientation. A few groups made an effort to reflect upon their sharing and experience and communicated their reflection to the whole conference. But most of the groups did not do so and their experience was somehow lost for the conference. (b) This process of sharing was followed by deliberations in sections and later on by decision-making in the Assembly, following the conference. Participants generally agree that these successive steps lacked in dynamic relationship.

Recommendation: The working group therefore recommends that sharing, reflecting and decision-making in the Assembly be not implemented chronologically but in parallel by setting aside particular periods for these elements during the day, making it possible for the same groups of people to engage in the three activities of sharing, reflecting and decision-making.

B. Staff recommendation with regard to Assembly topics (Appendix II): (a) The staff paper contents should be related to and integrated into the methodology on the Assembly accepted by the Central Committee at Addis Ababa; (b) the second approach outlined in the staff paper is recommended. It is understood that the subject matter for topics arises out of the main concerns of the sub-units of the WCC and that these concerns should be grouped into five to seven significant and promising areas of recent work in WCC as concerns of the whole ecumenical movement. The areas of concern mentioned in the staff paper should be refined with the help of the areas of concern mentioned on the last page of the Utrecht staff paper on the Assembly.

C. On the main theme. (a) The use of a biblical passage as theme is not advisable. A theme in the form of a slogan is necessary to provide a focus to the preparation of the Assembly and to the work of the Assembly. (b) The second theme proposed by the Executive Committee of the Indonesian Council of Churches is strongly recommended - Truth makes free (John 8:32 in conjunction with John 10:10). This theme would require a preparation with regard to the concept of truth similar to that done on 'Salvation'. The follow-up of Salvation

Today could become a preparation for Truth makes free.

In the discussion which followed the presentation of the above report Dr Gottschald said he very much hoped the main theme would be specifically Christo-centric. Mr Johnson also felt this was important. He did not see the need for the adoption of a slogan but if this was really necessary he would prefer the first suggestion of the Indonesian Council of Churches - God so loved the world. Dr Marshall pointed out that the Assembly had certain constitutional responsibilities for making decisions and this should be borne in mind in coming to a decision regarding the structure of the meeting. He would prefer that there should be a clear relationship between the biblical passages chosen and the theme rather than centering on a slogan. Of the biblical material so far suggested he thought the passage from Luke was the best. Dr Rossel thought there was a good deal to be said for the suggestion made by Mr Johnson regarding the theme: by 1975 the concept of freedom might have lost its present thrust. Bishop Sarkissian agreed with Dr Marshall that the passage from Luke was more dynamic and comprehensive than some of the other passages suggested. He wondered if something along the line of 'Committed to fellowship' might furnish an appropriate theme. He did not, however, think we were yet at a stage when we could come to a final decision. Professor Lochman also preferred a Christological theme but did not think the inclusion of the name of Christ in the formulation was essential.

It was finally AGREED -

> that the Executive Committee, having received the report of the sub-committee on preparations for the Fifth Assembly, refers this to the General Secretary and the Staff Executive Group for further consideration, and asks that the General Secretary will write again to the member churches pressing for a reply to the earlier letter asking for comments on the Utrecht discussion concerning the theme.

d) Women delegates to the Assembly

Miss Webb presented a statement drawn up by women participants in the meeting of the Central Committee at Utrecht regarding the representation of women in the Fifth Assembly. After discussion it was AGREED -

> that the Executive Committee recommend to the Central Committee that 60% of the places at the Fifth Assembly to be filled by the Central Committee should go to women. The Chairman wanted the staff to work out the implications of this recommendation for ensuring fair representation to other categories indicated in the Structure Committee Report, paragraph 41 (c) i) and to suggest procedures of implementing the recommendation to achieve the intention of the paragraph.

7. The Ecumenical Institute

In the absence of Dr Nissiotis the report on the Ecumenical Institute was presented by Dr Potter. In response to the invitation addressed by the Executive Committee meeting in Auckland to the Board of the Institute a committee of five members had been appointed to study the future of the Ecumenical Institute. Two meetings had been arranged, one to take place 27 January - 1 February, 1973, and the second from 14-19 April, 1973. The outcome of these two meetings would be reported to the Board at its meeting in July. The main task of the committee was to consider the future work of the Institute with special relation to the role of Bossey within the ecumenical movement and the relation of the Graduate School to the University of Geneva. A report would be presented to the Central Committee in Helsinki.

Two new Assistant Directors had been appointed on funds secured outside the general budget of the Council - Professor Gerd von Wahlert, a biologist, a member of the Lutheran Church in Germany, and Professor Rihito Kumura, professor of Law, a member of the United Church of Japan. It would be necessary to appoint a new Director before the end of the present year, when Dr Nissiotis was returning to the University of Athens.

Dr Potter drew attention to the programme of the Graduate School for the session 1972-73, the theme of which was 'Dialogue on Salvation with People of Living Faiths'. Dr Samartha, who was closely related to the programme, said that the Director had tried successfully to get together for this course a team of people belonging to other faiths. He felt that the whole experiment had proved successful and an interesting report on its outcome might be expected.

It was AGREED that the report on the Ecumenical Institute be received.

8. Report of the New York Office

Dr Eugene L. Smith presented the report of the New York office. After referring to the considerable regrouping of forces seeking creative change which seemed to be indicated following the November election in the United States, Dr Smith said there had been a notable increase in commitment of time and energy by churches to local ecumenical activity. The desire for participation in World Council activities was increasing and this he felt was needed as a counterbalance to the isolationism which was the negative side of what was otherwise creative local involvement. Little critical comment had reached the New York office following the Utrecht action upon investments in Southern Africa. The Corporate Information Center, however, had reported many enquiries by corporation executives. There had been some initiative in regard to the withdrawal of investments but agencies concerned with ethical issues on investment in Southern Africa

were more likely to move toward stockholder action than to disinvestment. Extensive reorganizations were taking place in member churches, and the National Council of Churches, after three years of work, had agreed on a new structure at its meeting in the first week of December. A state-wide committee in Wisconsin was planning for the annual meeting of the US Conference for the World Council of Churches at the end of April when it was hoped that Dr Potter, Miss Bam, Mr Abrecht and Dr Vischer would be present. The first visit to the United States by Dr Potter after his appointment as General Secretary had been the occasion for a memorable dinner in honour of Dr Blake and himself.

After thanking Dr Smith for his report the Chairman called on Dr Potter, who spoke with appreciation of the work done by Dr Smith and his small staff. In view of the changes now taking place in the organization of the churches in the United States plans were in hand for a fresh look at the role of the New York office both by the Executive Committee for the US Conference and in Geneva. A report would be presented to the Central Committee in Helsinki.

It was AGREED that the report of the New York office be received.

9. Relations with the Roman Catholic Church

Dr Vischer reported on the work of the Joint Working Group and relationships with the Roman Catholic Church. The situation had changed in that the possibility of membership in the World Council was no longer an issue of immediate relevance and the task now was to look for the best ways of collaboration in the existing situation. Examples of ongoing collaboration or of fields of exploration included (a) the active participation of Roman Catholics in the Bangkok conference and Father Stransky's proposal that ways should be found in which missionary communities of the Roman Catholic Church might be associated with the Commission on World Mission and Evangelism, (b) the strong response in Roman Catholic quarters to the Faith and Order study on Giving account of the hope that is in us, (c) the new programme of SODEPAX, (d) the exploratory conversation concerning collaboration in the fields of women's work, laity training and education. Speaking of plans for the next meeting of the Joint Working Group Dr Vischer said that at the last meeting it had been agreed that there should be concentration on the central question of future collaboration between the Roman Catholic Church and the World Council, and that instead of discussing the whole range of ongoing programmes primary attention should be given to our common understanding of the present ecumenical situation. In the light of this it might be possible to determine new ways for future collaboration. In preparation for the meeting a small consultation would be held at the end of March which it was hoped would produce a paper as a basis for discussion in the next meeting of the Joint Working Group in May. On the WCC side a number of people had been invited to send in brief statements on their understanding of the situation, especially with reference to the participation of the Roman Catholic Church. In the ecumenical movement these comments will be used as material for the consultation at the end of March.

Any comments from members of the Executive Committee would be welcome.

In the ensuing discussion Dr Rossel expressed the view that it would be useful to have at Helsinki a report on some of the significant happenings at the local level. Dr Payne referred to the likelihood that the Roman Catholic Church would become a member of the British Council of Churches. This was the result of a joint committee which had been at work for some time. It had been expected that once a decision had been reached the work of the committee would come to an end but a desire had been expressed by the Roman Catholic members for its continuation in order to provide a forum for more informal discussion than was possible in the Council meetings of the BCC. Pastor Langhoff considered that it was of importance to the churches to know what experiments were going on in different countries.

In reply to questions from members, Dr Vischer said the report appearing in the press of a financial contribution from the Vatican to the World Council was incorrect: a sum had in fact been given towards the work of Faith and Order but this had been an ad hoc contribution and would not be repeated. It was important that the Joint Working Group should be continued since it provided a forum for discussion which would not otherwise be available. The question that would have to be considered at its next meeting was whether there should be some change in its present mandate. Attention should certainly be given to some of the significant developments taking place at the local and regional level. The Assembly would provide the occasion for discussing patterns of future collaboration, and attention should be given to local developments in the preparatory work for the Assembly. The preparatory process should be so conceived as to make possible a maximum participation of Roman Catholics at all levels.

Dr Potter said that while the Secretariat for Christian Unity was the body with which the World Council was related, most of the responsibility for the fields of collaboration lay elsewhere and in many instances effective cooperation was very difficult. The financial question also had to be borne in mind in that much of the cost of the existing collaboration fell upon the funds of the World Council.

It was AGREED that the report be received.

10. <u>The role of the Executive Committee</u>

Dr Potter drew attention to the following minute of the Executive Committee meeting at Utrecht:

> that the Executive Committee at its next meeting should give some consideration to the future role of the Executive Committee and the functions and authority of the Unit Committees in the light of experience at the Utrecht meetings.

The matter had been raised by Dr Visser 't Hooft and related to the position of the Executive Committee vis-à-vis the unit committees in the new structure. It was the feeling of the meeting that the new structure was still at too early a stage to enable a judgement to be reached. Dr Payne said the Committee would have to rely on the General Secretary and the staff to ensure that matters which should properly be the concern of the Executive Committee were placed upon its agenda. Dr Potter's view was that all major matters affecting the life and work of the Council should be shared with the Committee except at times when it was meeting immediately prior to the Central Committee which would then itself expect to deal directly with such issues. (See also minute 20, p. 24)

11. Applications for membership

Dr Potter reported that there were no applications for membership to bring before the meeting. A number of applications were pending and would be brought to the meeting in Helsinki.

12. The Humanum Studies

Canon David Jenkins reported on the Humanum studies, drawing attention to a document which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. The study of the question 'What is man?' was bound up with the way in which we are trapped in our institutions and our structures. There was a solidarity in sin which held us all. He was, however, beginning to understand that that solidarity could be seen and received as something hopeful. Being and becoming human started with the ever-present 'we' and there was no place outside the process of being and becoming human from which we could find impersonal answers to the question. One of the ways in which the Humanum studies might be considered was to see them as a case study related to human and organizational response. What was the World Council's response to the continuing crisis in human identity and Christian identity? It was not helpful to try to answer the question 'What is man?' on its own because the terms of the debate and the context to which you are responding and the means for responding were challenged by the crisis in human identity and Christian identity. Our problems could not be solved by a process of summation, through theological, disciplinary and cultural studies of man. The main question was one of growing together, of finding a new approach. The situation became threatening if one did not see the hopefulness of solidarity in sin. There were too many ways in which the World Council did not act in the process of growing together. We insist on fitting people in. We do not listen because we will not give time. To hear something new means that we have to be changed or we do not help towards a real coming together. Might it not be necessary to ensure that nobody had a continuing period of service either on the staff or on a committee for more than five years, after which they should go back into the local church in the local situation? Otherwise we were

in danger of perpetuating the wrong sort of bureaucracy. The only valid documents to come from the ecumenical movement were what the Gospel would call 'living epistles'.

Canon Jenkins drew attention to the following ways in which certain theological themes seemed to have become recurringly relevant to the disturbing questions about man, listing them as:

i) The understanding of God as the Disturber.
ii) The doctrinal areas of Image of God, Sin, and Eschatology.
iii) The concept of 'Towards the new man in Jesus Christ'.
iv) The understanding of the Church as the basis for Christian identity.

He asked the Committee to take action in the setting up of the Humanum Advisory Committee authorized by Central Committee and to give the necessary authority for the convening of two consultations, one before the Helsinki meeting and the second in 1974 before the meeting of Central Committee that year.

The Chairman then called for discussion. Professor Lochman said he had listened to what had been said with some bewilderment. This arose partly from the fact that Canon Jenkins had not received a sufficiently clear mandate when he was asked to undertake the study. He felt that the introductory remarks and even to some extent the paper which had been circulated to members did not begin to answer the question 'What is man?'. It seemed to him that major emphasis was being laid not on the broader question but on the organization and character of the Council. Dr Rossel stressed the importance of securing a strong Orthodox contribution to such consultations as those proposed. General Simatupang asked whether Canon Jenkins had related his comments specifically to western civilization and culture, where there was in existence an anti-institutional and anti-establishment mood. The danger in the ecumenical movement was that 'we' connotated a majority projecting its problems on the minority. Mr Johnson asked what the relation was between what Canon Jenkins had described as 'summation' and the confluence or flowing together of certain disciplines. He wondered whether there was not some positive value in knowing as much as possible about a certain subject <u>qua</u> subject. Dr Thomas said he was concerned that the paper dealt to a large extent with bureaucracy within the Geneva headquarters. In his paper Canon Jenkins seemed to speak of the World Council as consisting of the Geneva staff whereas it was much more than that. The doctrine of man was important and the dialectical relation between doctrine and practice had not been taken into account. In India, for example, the doctrine of man had an important relation to changing the political and economic order. Canon Jenkins seemed to have completely abandoned the theological task at this point. He hoped the four points listed by him would receive systematized study. Dr Potter felt that what Canon Jenkins had said was important and must be taken with seriousness. His thesis concerned the spiritual life of the

churches and not only the bureaucracy of the World Council. Pastor Langhoff questioned whether at this late stage in the studies and in view of the fact that Canon Jenkins would be leaving Geneva in September it was worth while setting up the proposed Advisory Group. Dr Thomas pointed out that the Executive Committee had received a clear instruction from Central Committee to appoint such a group and was under obligation to do so. Dr Potter said the matter had been discussed in the Staff Executive Group and the opinion had been that such an evaluation group would be valuable. Dr Payne said that in evaluating the material available the Advisory Group might find it advisable to issue its report in two parts, one for the consideration of Central Committee and the other, dealing with the organizational aspect of the Council, in the first instance for submission to the General Secretary. It was pointed out that the study did, in fact, involve a great deal of theological reflection and that it was planned to spell this out through the work of the Advisory Group and the Director's own writings.

It was moved, seconded and AGREED -

a) that a Humanum Advisory Committee be set up in the form of a list of persons who should be invited to attend two consultations, one to be held before the next meeting of the Central Committee at Helsinki, and one to be held in 1974 before the meeting of the Central Committee in that year. The purpose of the consultations would be:

   i) to consider the material gathered by the Director of the Humanum studies and the arguments and proposals put forward by him;

   ii) to make recommendations concerning the bearing of the material on various aspects of the work of the Council and the churches;

   iii) to make recommendations concerning the relationship of the work on the Humanum to preparations for the Fifth Assembly;

   iv) to prepare, or to take steps to have prepared, any further report or action, apart from those arising from (2) and (3) above, which was thought to be necessary or desirable.

b) that the Advisory Committee be appointed as follows:

   i) Associated with the Ecumenical Institute:
   <u>either</u> Professor Dr G. von Wahlert (Evang., Germany)
   (Associate Director, Ecumenical Institute)
   <u>or</u> a theologian who has attended at least two of the series of consultations held at Bossey in connection with the Humanum studies, to be chosen in consultation with the Director and in such a way as to ensure a person in a different category

from the person chosen under Faith and Order auspices.

ii) Associated with Church and Society. If possible Dr Charles Birch (Australia), Vice-Chairman of the Church and Society Working Committee. If he is unable to serve, then some other scientist associated with the Church and Society programmes to be chosen in consultation with the Executive Secretary.

iii) Associated with Dialogue with Living Faiths and Ideologies. If possible Metropolitan Georges Khodre (Orthodox, Lebanon). If he is unable to serve, then some other person associated with the programme, coming from elsewhere than Europe or North America, and to be chosen in consultation with the Director.

iv) Associated with Faith and Order. A theologian from Germany or Scandinavia to be chosen in consultation with the Director.

v) Associated with Institution Studies. If possible Mlle A. Asfour (sociologist, Orthodox, Lebanon).

vi) Associated with UIM. A theologian associated with the work in 'Theology in Action' in Asia. If possible Dr K. Koyama.

vii) Associated with the Christian Medical Commission. Dr J. Bryant (United Church of Christ, USA).

viii) Associated with the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs. An appropriate person chosen in consultation with the Director, preferably from Africa.

ix) Associated with the Theological Education Fund. A staff member to be nominated by the Director (preferably the Rev. D. Tutu, S. Africa).

Members of Central Committee who have already agreed to serve on any Humanum committee, viz: Dr J. Miguez-Bonino, Dr K.T. Cho, Miss Jean Fairfax.

Two or three additional members to be proposed by the Executive Committee (including at least one further woman). (A possible suggestion is that one of these should be Dr Ernst Lange.) (For Executive Committee action see report of Nominations Committee, p. 49)

c) that practical ways of taking the study further be borne in mind as illustrated in the closing sections of Canon Jenkins' article 'The future of the Humanum Studies' (Ecumenical Review, 1973).

MATTERS RELATED TO PROGRAMME UNIT II

13. Programme to Combat Racism

Dr Sjollema reported on the work of the Programme to Combat Racism since the meeting of Central Committee in Utrecht.

(a) The change of Government in Australia had resulted in important developments regarding the position of the aborigines, and new legislation was envisaged which would affect the present situation in relation to land tenure and would bring about considerable improvements in educational opportunities. At Utrecht a letter had been sent by the Officers to the Australian Council of Churches urging urgent representations to the Government regarding the position of the aborigines and indicating that this whole question would be on the agenda of Central Committee at the Helsinki meeting. A full report on developments would be presented at that meeting. (b) In cooperation with the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, continuous attention had been given to questions concerning racial discrimination and oppression in Namibia, Portuguese Africa and Zimbabwe. Dr Potter had met with Dr Waldheim to discuss these matters in some detail. (c) The Utrecht decision on investments in Southern Africa had provoked considerable debate both inside and outside the churches. Few churches had taken an official position but several had started to examine their investment portfolios and others had set up working groups to study the issue. The European Conference of Justice and Peace Commissions had requested the Pontifical Commission in Rome and the National Commissions in Europe to study the Utrecht resolutions. There were indications that (i) churches which had investments in companies operating in Southern Africa were afraid of possible consequences; (ii) churches did not have the necessary expertise to deal adequately with the issues; and (iii) the difference between the decision of the World Council to sell its shares and the recommendation to the constituency to use influence to press corporations to withdraw had not been sufficiently recognized. The PCR was finding ways and means to support member churches and their agencies in implementing the Utrecht recommendations. Income for the Special Fund to Combat Racism had been sufficient to permit recommendations for a third allocation of grants in the amount of $ 200,000 and the proposals of the Executive Committee of PCR would be before the meeting for action. Receipts and payments to November 11, 1972 showed a balance in hand of $ 197,668 (see Appendix III) and pledges in the amount of $ 35,000.

In reply to questions raised during the discussion which followed, Dr Sjollema said that a list of companies holding investments in Southern Africa had been prepared and copies would be available to members. Various proposals were under consideration regarding the possibility of arranging for consultants to provide expert advice to member churches wishing to study the possibility of action. Lord March and Pastor Langhoff felt that it would be preferable to have experts in the countries concerned rather than

to appoint someone in Geneva to act as consultant, though at the same time it would also be important to have the necessary expertise available at headquarters. Mr Northam said that a statement concerning World Council action in regard to disinvestment would be contained in the report of the Finance Sub-Committee.

Dr Sjollema then presented the proposals from the PCR Executive Committee on 1973 grants from the Special Fund to Combat Racism. After discussion it was AGREED -

a) that on the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Programme to Combat Racism approval be given to the detailed list of allocations from the Special Fund as set out in Appendix IV;

b) that the Executive Committee recognize the need for supporting the exploited one million Puerto Rican minority in the USA in its struggle for racial and economic justice, and agree to set aside $ 6,000 for a group to be determined by the WCC Officers on the recommendation of the General Secretary;

c) that after hearing of developments in Zimbabwe liberation movements, the Executive Committee request the PCR Commission to give serious consideration to the continuation of grants made earlier to these movements;

d) that while the Executive Committee agrees to the proposed grant to the Malcolm X Movement, the PCR Commission is requested to consider carefully whether support should be continued in the future.

Dr Payne reported that a letter addressed to the Presidents had been received from Bishop Zulu regarding the situation in Southern Africa and the position of the churches there in relation to the actions taken by the WCC. He had consulted with Dr Cho, the only other President present in the meeting, and they had agreed on a reply to be sent to Bishop Zulu in due course. Dr Potter reported that an open letter had also been addressed to the Presidents by the Bishops of Mashonaland and Matabeleland regarding what they described as 'the WCC's continued support for movements that employ methods of naked terrorism'. Copies of the letter were circulated to members of the Committee.

14. Commission of the Churches on International Affairs

Dr Niilus, reporting on the work of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, said that the Commission had concentrated on the priorities agreed upon at the Utrecht meeting of Central Committee. He outlined action taken on these matters which had included (a) the gathering of further documentation on European Security and Cooperation; (b) the maintenance of regular contacts with the parties involved in the Indochina war; (c) the publication and distribution to UN delegates of the annual CCIA

UN General Assembly Memorandum and continuing initiatives by members of the CCIA staff in regard to a number of issues of concern to the member churches; in this connection the World Council was being regularly cited by delegates in their speeches to the Assembly for their exemplary activity in such fields as the struggle against white racism and in the promotion of development; (d) continuing cooperation with Non-Governmental Organizations. In the field of Human Rights special attention had been given to Latin America, especially to Uruguay where the use of torture had become persistent. Work among NGOs concerned for the preservation of human rights was aimed at a major coordinated presentation to the next meeting of the ECOSOC Commission on Human Rights on the treatment of political prisoners and the use of torture as a political instrument. Dr Niilus reported confidentially on CCIA action in relation to Uganda, Burundi, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia and Mozambique. Asia was an area of concern that so far had received too little attention, but he hoped that this might be corrected in the future. However, financial stringency made it impossible at the moment to enlarge the staff by the appointment of a person particularly related to this area of the world. Dr Potter reported in confidence on conversations he had had with Dr Waldheim regarding Zimbabwe and the Middle East, and also on the question of reconstruction and rehabilitation in Vietnam.

It was AGREED that the report be received.

15. Consultation with South Africa member Churches

On behalf of the special sub-committee on public affairs, Dr Payne presented a draft statement regarding a suggested consultation with South African member churches. After discussion and the adoption of one or two minor amendments it was AGREED that this be adopted as follows:

> The Executive Committee was informed about a suggested consultation in Nairobi in February 1973 between representatives of the South African member churches and the World Council of Churches. It regretted that this consultation could not take place at the suggested time because neither the Committee nor the General Secretary were aware of an agreement on this matter or could be ready for it.
>
> The Executive Committee, however, remains deeply concerned about the lack of communication with the member churches in South Africa over the last years. The Addis Ababa Central Committee in 1971 had welcomed an invitation by the member churches to hold a meeting in South Africa. Unfortunately, this meeting had to be postponed indefinitely because of the imposition of conditions by the South African government which were unacceptable to the WCC.
>
> The Executive Committee reiterated its desire to work for mutual understanding. This could take several forms. Preferably a consultation should still be held in South

Africa as the member churches had requested. If this still proves to be impossible a meeting could be considered elsewhere though this would change the character of the meeting. It was also suggested that member churches in South Africa not represented in the Central Committee might consider exercising their right of sending a representative to the August 1973 Central Committee meeting in Helsinki. This would not only provide the opportunity for a consultation on specific issues concerned with racial justice but would also make it possible for South African Church representatives to become acquainted with the many other aspects of the life of the World Council.

The Executive Committee resolves that the General Secretary be authorized, after further consultation with the Secretary of the SACC, to use the above in the course of a communication to the member churches in South Africa and the SACC, either open or private, as he thinks best.

16. Officers' Statement on Indochina

The Committee considered the situation in Indochina and the statement on Salvation Today adopted by the Bangkok Conference of the Commission on World Mission and Evangelism. At the request of the General Secretary, the Executive Committee prepared a statement which might be used by the Officers should they decide to issue one.

17. The Indian Ocean

Dr Payne reported on discussion in the special sub-committee on public statements regarding the possibility of a statement being issued by the Officers on the maintenance of the Indian Ocean as a zone to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes. He read the text of a possible statement and it was AGREED that this be referred to the Officers for consideration in consultation with the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, the Officers being authorized to take such action as was deemed advisable. The CCIA was asked further to explore the issues involved and take whatever steps it deemed fit, as part of a continuous process.

18. Churches' Commission on Participation in Development

In the absence of Mr Itty, Mr Harvey Perkins reported on the work of the Churches' Commission on Participation in Development. The Commission was planning to concentrate its efforts on four selected areas - Indonesia, Ethiopia, Cameroun and the Caribbean. With this in view the staff and Commissioners had made extensive visits in these four areas to discuss (a) How far the poorest sections of the population were involved as active agents and immediate beneficiaries of their efforts; (b) How far the programme was geared to attitudinal changes on the one hand and

structural changes on the other; (c) How far the programme was geared to self-reliance and mobilization and utilization of local resources; and (d) Technical competence in planning and implementation. In the field of development education preparations were going forward for a world consultation on 'Power and Development' which would bring together representatives of the churches in the rich countries and Third World representatives to share insights on educating the Christian communities for political action for development. The consultation would be held in Puerto Rico in March 1973. Plans were also in hand for the visit of a multinational team of 15 persons from the Third World to the USA during March to undertake an educational campaign for development concerns. In the field of technical service, the Commission was receiving increasing numbers of requests for assistance. The approximately 3 million dollars received for the Ecumenical Development Fund had been transferred or allocated to various agencies and movements in a number of countries and there was reasonable hope that in 1973 contributions would be increased. Recommendations regarding staffing would be before the meeting through the Staffing Sub-committee.

It was AGREED that the report be received.

19. Commission on Inter-Church Aid, Refugee and World Service

In the absence of Dr Brash, Mr Jean Fischer reported on the work of the Commission on Inter-Church Aid, Refugee and World Service.

a) The Commission had met in Geneva at the end of November instead of in the Middle East. However, a consultation on service and development took place with the Middle East churches in Cyprus earlier in the month, thus providing an opportunity for contacts and conversations with the churches of that area. In 1973 the Commission meetings will take place in Geneva in June (when there will be joint sessions with the Churches' Commission on Participation in Development), and in Sofia, Bulgaria, in November on the invitation of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church.

b) Great interest had been evinced in the debate at Utrecht - Committed to Fellowship. In this connection the Commission had begun to tackle the question of relationships between the rich and the poor churches and it was hoped that in coming years there would be a growing dialogue between the churches in the Third World countries and the churches in the so-called 'giving' countries.

c) The refugee programmes in Africa, the Middle East and Indo-China had been fully subscribed for 1972. These major programmes of the Commission were conducted under the responsibility of regional committees established in consultation with the churches of the region. The Commission continued to be responsible for refugee programmes in Europe and Asia, and gave more and more attention to the refugee situation in Latin America.

d) The first year of the experiment with Category I projects (i.e. projects under a very low ceiling in each country regarded as priority by the organizing churches) had secured coverage of very nearly 100%, and in all regions this had reached over 90%. The total listing of projects for 1973 was over 800 and the askings involved amounted to over $ 20 million. The Project List operation was in process of being regionalized with a view to giving the churches in each region the possibility of formulating policy and priorities and suggesting procedures and guidelines relevant to the regional situation. Regional committees were being established in consultation with regional bodies through a process of consultations initiated early in 1972 and to be continued in 1973.

e) The Commission had been involved in a substantial number of emergencies, major attention having been devoted to responding to man-made emergencies. In the Sudan the programme was becoming developmental and was no longer a relief programme. A debt of gratitude was owed to Mr Bethuel Kiplagat of the Christian Council of Kenya who had given time to act as Director of this programme. In Bangladesh power in decision-making was being transferred to a genuinely indigenous operation of the Bangladesh churches and community - a process which was obviously not an easy one. In Vietnam the programmes were now being oriented to the region as a whole following the decision at Utrecht to set up a fund for Reconstruction and Reconciliation in Indochina. Seven tons of medical supplies had been sent to Hanoi via Moscow and a further seven ton consignment would shortly be despatched. The Commission was committed to endeavour to find support for a programme in Burundi, in response to an appeal from the All Africa Conference of Churches. Preparations were in hand to respond to the drought situation in India should need arise.

It was AGREED that the report be received.

20. Central Committee 1973

Dr Potter reported on discussions in the staff concerning plans for the Central Committee meeting in Helsinki. The theme of the Utrecht meeting, Committed to Fellowship, had been a most timely one and he felt the discussion had only just begun and might well be continued through the next meeting. Some comments had been made concerning the relationship between the unit committees and the Central Committee and it was felt that an effort should be made to avoid overlapping and repetition. There was also need to give more thought to the question of the relation of the discussions on the main theme to the business sessions. Reference was also made to the importance of ensuring that the proceedings of Central Committee were communicated to member churches in such a way as to evoke a real response.

In the ensuing discussion reference was made to a letter which

Bishop Nichols had circulated after the Utrecht meeting and which had given in a lively and interesting way the main issues that had arisen in the meeting. It was suggested that this was a practice which might be adopted by other members of Central Committee. Professor Lochman hoped that some way would be found to avoid the duplication or even triplication of committee business which first went through Unit and Reference committees and then came before Central Committee itself. Bishop Sarkissian said that communication only through letters and documents was not sufficient. He thought members should, wherever possible, arrange for regional meetings at which the main issues could be presented by people who had themselves been present.

Mr Thomsen said an attempt was being made to profit by the criticisms that had been raised, and presented a time-table which reduced somewhat the total period of time covered by the meetings (see Appendix V). It was proposed that Central Committee itself should occupy the period 22 to 29 August, with the Executive Committee meeting on 18 August and the Unit Committees and Finance Committee in the period 19 to 21 August with the exception of Unit Committee III which would begin on Friday, 17 August. Thursday, 30 August would be available for an excursion to be arranged by the Finnish churches, participation in which would be optional. It was proposed that there should be only four group meetings instead of six as at Utrecht. With regard to the theme of the meeting it was suggested that the addresses of the Chairman and General Secretary, using the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Council, should carry further the discussion on 'Committed to Fellowship'. It was also envisaged that there might be major presentations on the study 'Violence, Non-violence and the Struggle for Social Justice' and possibly on the Salvation Today conference. In reply to a question from Archimandrite Kyrill, Mr Thomsen said that the request of the Orthodox representatives at Utrecht that Central Committee should end by August 28 in order to enable attendance at important Orthodox festivals had not been overlooked and would be taken into account in fixing the dates of future meetings. It was not, however, possible to adjust the dates of the Helsinki meeting owing to the impossibility of securing the necessary accommodation at any other time than that originally agreed upon.

It was AGREED -

a) that the revised time-table for the meeting of Central Committee at Helsinki be approved (see Appendix V);

b) that the following Worship Committee for the meeting be constituted: Miss Webb (Chairman), Archbishop Anthony Bloom, Pastor J. Langhoff, Rev. R. Davis and Fr G. Tsetsis.

21. Twentyfifth Anniversary Observance

Miss Frances Smith presented a report on plans for the observance of the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the Council.

It was AGREED that the report be accepted.

MATTERS RELATED TO PROGRAMME UNIT I

22. Sub-unit on Church and Society

The Rev. David Gill, in the absence of Mr Abrecht, presented the report on the work of the sub-unit on Church and Society.

a) Twin consultations in Cardiff, Wales, in September 1972 had been important stages in the two studies on 'The Future of Man and Society' and on the question of 'Violence, Non-Violence and the Struggle for Social Justice'. The focus in the consultation on 'Global Environment, Economic Growth and Social Justice' had been on (i) the concern for the environment and the implications for economic growth, the use of natural resources and distributive justice, and (ii) population control and the quality of life. Despite many differences of opinion among the participants, the meeting had succeeded in developing a statement on 'Resources - a social and technological perspective'. The population issue had given rise to a provisional report on ethical problems of population control which was now being circulated to a wider group for comment. A second consultation of demographers would be held in connection with the meeting of the Working Committee in July and it was hoped to complete a report for presentation to Central Committee in Helsinki.

b) The Working Committee had mapped out a programme for concluding the study on Technology and the Future of Man and Society in 1974. It was hoped that three more regional meetings could be held during 1973 and in accordance with the recommendations of the Central Committee at Utrecht plans were in hand for two specialized international meetings, (i) a consultation on Genetics and the Quality of Life, and (ii) a working party on Science and Technology. A major meeting was envisaged in 1974, representative of interests and groups that had been active in the study. Preparations for this would be one of the main concerns of the Working Committee in Basel in July 1973.

c) A consultation concerned with the study on 'Violence, Non-Violence and the Struggle for Social Justice' had been convened with the cooperation of the Programme to Combat Racism, the Director of Biblical Studies and the Renewal Group. The report of the conference was being widely distributed to interested groups and individuals for comment and criticism. Copies were available for members of the Executive Committee on request. During the next few months conversation on the basis of the Cardiff report would be continued by means of staff travel, locally organized meetings and correspondence, and a small consultation was being planned on Jesus' attitude to power. Steps to finalize the study by September 1973 would depend partly on how the issue was treated at the Helsinki meeting.

23. Commission on World Mission and Evangelism

Reporting on the Bangkok conference on 'Salvation Today', Dr Emilio Castro said that the conference had been a revival meeting - a spiritual event. Many, especially in Europe, had feared it could mean a final dichotomy between those who emphasized faith in a personal dimension and those who were committed to social and structural change. There had been serious confrontation but the meeting had ended in a joyful affirmation, as was illustrated by the Letter to the Churches which had been adopted by the meeting. Fundamental affirmations of our contemporary commitment were summed up, including (a) a comprehensive understanding of salvation, (b) the value of personal and cultural identity and its dialectical relation to conversion, (c) the emergence of a new day in world mission, (d) the mutual recognition of our Christian identity with conservative evangelicals, accepting different emphases under a common obedience, (e) our understanding of salvation as allowing for different missionary priorities in different historical moments. These affirmations were not isolated from concrete and heated political issues - Indochina, Africa, China, oppression and liberation were all referred to in different resolutions. It was to be regretted that there was so small an Orthodox representation but those Orthodox who were present took a lively part in the discussions. There was also excellent participation of the official Roman Catholic delegation.

In relation to the future, the following areas of concern were pin-pointed: (a) Mission in a divided world, not only a world of ideological and economic divisions but also in the class struggle in every congregation. How can we preach reconciliation and concern for the oppressed? (b) The world mission. How can this be implemented? It is more than mission to six continents; it is a breaking through of the distinction between home and foreign mission. (c) The life of the churches in situations of captivity. How can we live creatively in situations which, humanly speaking, are hopeless? (d) The power factor in the missionary enterprise. How do we share power? (e) The Faith and Order study on 'Giving account of the hope that is in us' should be at the heart of the CWME in the immediate future. (f) There is a strong demand from western churches to be helped to fulfil their missionary responsibility. This could be a geographical priority. (g) Cooperation with conservative evangelicals and Pentecostals should from now on be assumed in every activity. (h) The mission of the Church in socialist countries. What do we learn from the experience of churches in new types of society? (i) The main emphasis in the local church, the mission of the existing congregation as a permanent point of reference. (j) Changes in the by-laws of the Commission in order to admit the affiliation of the Orthodox churches.

It was AGREED to receive the report.

24. Commission on Faith and Order

Dr Lukas Vischer reported on the work of the Commission on Faith and Order.

a) Giving account of the Hope that is in us. There had been a good response to the invitation to participate in this study and so far between 30 and 35 groups had either started or were about to start work on it. The study would involve at least two levels of reflection: (i) an attempt to articulate the faith we hold in a coherent fashion in the local situation, and (ii) a study of the various accounts received to discover the elements of the one faith that seem to be common and the way in which these can be expressed: this aspect of the study would be a direct concern of the Commission. A brief consultation held in Bangkok immediately following the conference there had revealed the wide range of differences which characterized the churches today. This study would have to be closely linked with continuing work on the theme 'Salvation Today' and with studies being carried on by other sub-units of the Council.

b) Concepts of Unity and Models of Union. On the instruction of the Faith and Order Commission study was being pursued regarding the nature of the unity we seek in the ecumenical movement. A meeting was being planned to take place in September 1973 when about sixty participants would discuss this issue. A preparatory paper had been written and was being shared as widely as possible. Dr Vischer said that comments from members of the Executive Committee would be warmly welcomed: he would be glad to supply copies of the paper on request.

c) Sacraments and the Ministry. The Commission had requested that the study on the ordained ministry initiated in 1967 should continue in the hope that an agreement similar to the consensus on baptism and the eucharist might be reached. A consultation had been held in Marseille in September 1972 and a paper drafted at this meeting was being used as the basis for comment and reaction from groups and individuals in many areas. It was hoped that a further meeting would be held in October 1973 when a revised draft would be prepared for submission to the Commission at its meeting in 1974. During a visit to the Serbian Orthodox Church in Bulgaria discussion with the Faculty in Belgrade had taken place, at which a first response to the paper had been formulated.

d) Next meeting of Working Committee. Plans were in hand to hold the next meeting of the Working Committee in Africa in July/August 1974. It seemed clear that the study on 'Giving account of the hope that is in us' would be of crucial importance at this meeting.

e) Dr Vischer gave a brief report on the Faith and Order visit to Yugoslavia and reported that the opportunity had been taken to discuss with Patriarch German his request not to have his name associated with the Presidents' Pentecostal Message. He

had looked at a draft of the message and had consented to allow his name to be included among the signatories.

In the discussion which followed, Archimandrite Kyrill referred to the importance of strong Orthodox participation in the study on 'Concepts of Unity and Models of Union', and asked whether there was a possibility of an Orthodox consultation before the meeting which was to be held in the autumn of 1973. Dr Vischer said there was to be a meeting of the Faith and Order Working Committee in the Soviet Union in August and he hoped it might be possible to arrange a special meeting of Orthodox representatives at that time. It was anticipated that there would be a good proportion of Orthodox participants in the consultation in the autumn.

Dr Vischer reported with regret the departure from the staff of Fr Vitaly Borovoy. This represented a loss not only to the sub-unit on Faith and Order but to the whole of the Council.

It was AGREED that the report be received.

25. Dialogue with People of Living Faiths and Ideologies

Dr Samartha, reporting on the work of the sub-unit on Dialogue with People of Living Faiths and Ideologies, said that the months following the Utrecht meeting of the Central Committee had been spent mainly in preparation for the conference on Salvation Today. The Dialogue Working Group would meet in March and a detailed report on the work of the sub-unit had been sent to members in preparation. The question of ideologies had been raised from several quarters and it was the hope that more attention would be paid to this aspect of the programme in the next period. There had been growing cooperation between the Dialogue sub-unit and a number of other sub-units and it was clear that this must be continued and intensified. Dr Samartha was glad to be able to report that Mr John B. Taylor, a specialist in Islamics, would be joining the staff at the beginning of May.

It was AGREED that the report be received.

MATTERS RELATED TO PROGRAMME UNIT III

26. Education and Communication

a) Speaking to a written report on the work of Unit III Mr Simpfendörfer said he would like to underline the fact that the discussion which had taken place in the Unit Committee had proved of great help in the on-going work of the Unit. The question of the location of the sub-unit on Communication had been given considerable thought and a proposal would be before the meeting for transferring this whole operation to the General Secretariat. It was clear that a fresh examination of the aim

and purpose of Unit III in the context of the Council as a whole was necessary in order to underline its function as a service to the Council and to the churches. The thrust of the Unit should be that of communication in depth, encouraging ecumenical encounter between groups in local and regional situations. He hoped that between now and Helsinki on-going programmes could be coordinated so that a positive report could be presented to Central Committee. The direction which the post-Helsinki programme should take must be towards a loosening of the infra-structure. The present Aim and Functions as formulated simply represented a sum of the separate parts from which the Unit had been made up; a more concise and perhaps more modest formulation should be considered.

b) The Education Sub-Unit had continued to work in the light of the priorities indicated at Utrecht, and the staff had participated in a number of consultations in various countries. There had been two meetings with the organization of lay academies in Europe, and a meeting of Association of Lay Centres representatives in Asia, Africa and Europe had been held early in January 1973. The first of a series of workshops on sub-regional strategy had taken place in Sierra Leone in December and a series of workshops in the United States had begun on 1 January on the theme 'Learning and Change: a dialogical Venture'. Planning for major events and programmes during 1973 was well in hand. Professor Johannes Althausen of East Berlin had begun work on developing ecumenical strategies in Europe focussing on France, Great Britain and Roumania. A further addition to the staff had been that of Miss Florence Addison of Ghana who took up her work on 1 December as Scholarships Secretary. After seven years' service in Geneva the Rev. Ralph Mould would be retiring at the end of January. His leadership of the World Council of Christian Education during the years prior to its integration with the World Council had made a contribution to the work of the churches in education at the world level.

c) The Renewal Working Group had concentrated on three main issues: (1) Movements for theological renewal; (2) Movements which exert pressure on Institutions; and (3) Movements which provide a 'new vision' of society and man. These were seen as identifying the direction in which future work should now take place.

d) Miss Frances Smith presented the report of the Working Group on Communication, outlining the steps that had been taken following Utrecht to interpret the actions of Central Committee to the secular and religious press. Before leaving the Council in November to take up work in his own Church, Dr Albert van den Heuvel had set up an interim plan for operations pending the appointment of his successor. The sub-unit was fortunate in securing the temporary services of Mrs Nancy Nolde to assist in carrying the administrative responsibility. The various aspects of the work had continued steadily during the period, increasing in volume and importance. Plans were in hand for the addition of a joint editorial office as from 1 January 1973 by which

Mr Martin Conway would act as managing editor of the Ecumenical Review and Study Encounter, and as convenor of a staff group on the coordination of periodicals. Recommendations for a new programme of WCC periodicals would be brought to the Helsinki meeting of Central Committee. Nominations for the post of Publications Manager would be before the meeting through the report of the Staffing Sub-Committee.

Several members of the Committee emphasized the necessity to provide for publicity in languages other than the three official languages and oriented to Christian communities in the world other than those speaking English, French and German. The Committee was assured that this would be considered seriously by the SEG. Pastor Langhoff pleaded for a return to the weekly publication of the Ecumenical Press Service.

e) Retirement of Rev. Ralph Mould. The Executive Committee noted that the Rev. Ralph Mould would be retiring from the Sub-unit on Education at the end of January, and it was AGREED -

> that the Executive Committee in noting the forthcoming retirement of the Rev. Ralph Mould express warm appreciation of the seven years' service he has rendered in Geneva and for his leadership of the World Council of Christian Education during the years of negotiation which led to its integration in the World Council of Churches.

27. Future location of the Communications Function

Dr Potter introduced a report concerning the future location of the Department of Communication, copies of which were in the hands of members. It had become clear during the period following the adoption of the new structure that its present location within Unit III needed further examination. Central Committee had requested this Committee to look into the matter. It seemed preferable that the Department should serve the whole Council and not form an integral part of Unit III, while maintaining some links with it on the continuing discussion of the question of communication to the churches and to the world.

After discussion it was AGREED -

a) that the proposals made were in the right direction and should be further refined for presentation to Central Committee at Helsinki through the Committee of Unit III;

b) that Programme Units of the Council be asked to send representatives to the meeting of the Communication Committee in May with a view to ensuring that their special concerns in the field of communication are taken into account.

28. Report of Finance Sub-Committee

In presenting the report of the Finance Sub-Committee Lord March explained that the first four items should be considered together and presented them as follows:

I General Budget

1. It is exceptionally difficult to make confident forecasts of the probable outcome of 1972 operations under the General Budget. The date of the meeting is earlier than usual and the elements of uncertainty are important and numerous. A proposed General Budget for 1973 totalling SFr. 6,000,000 is submitted for approval. It is considered that the budget can be approved with reasonable expectation that resources will be available sufficient to assure the financing of the implied level of activities to the end of 1974.

a) General Budget 1972 - Probable Results

2. Income for 1972 was forecast at Utrecht as SFr. 5,560,000. Interest earnings may be up about SFr. 100,000. The amount to be drawn from the Travel Subsidy Fund can also be increased by about SFr. 100,000. After re-study, the other estimates, including the estimate of member church contributions, can be confirmed. Total income may thus be about SFr. 5,760,000.

3. The authorized net expenditure level is SFr. 5,683,400. It remains uncertain whether the following special contributions, which were assumed in the establishment of that net expenditure level, will be received:

i. Special contributions for Bossey of SFr. 175,000. We have so far received SFr. 71,400;

ii. Special contributions for PCR of SFr. 85,600. We have so far received SFr. 15,125.

It seems clear that there will not be major over-expenditure and final gross expenses could be a little lower than budget level. We could end 1972 with no deficit or even a small surplus We could end 1972 with a deficit of perhaps SFr. 100,000.

4. There are two special resources for meeting any deficit, namely:

i. credit balance brought forward from 1971 on Special Reserve SFr. 411,567; and

ii. a balance of SFr. 129,426 from special gifts in response to Dr Blake's special appeal.

These two items provide in total SFr. 540,993. We might be able to carry the total amount, possibly even increased by a small

1972 surplus, forward to 1973. It may be necessary to use up to SFr. 100,000 to cover a 1972 deficit, leaving say SFr. 450,000 to carry forward to 1973.

b) Proposed General Budget 1973

5. Tentative forecasts submitted at Utrecht were:

Expenses	SFr. 6,000,000
Income	5,915,000
Deficit	SFr. 85,000

6. The Executive Committee was authorized to approve a budget "which shall not exceed SFr. 6,000,000 unless there is reasonable assurance that a higher level of expenditure will not impair the forecast that resources adequate for operations in 1973 and 1974 will be available".

7. As to income, member church contributions may exceed estimates by about SFr. 30,000, plus any further increases in contributions not yet notified to Geneva, e.g. in the contribution of the Russian Orthodox Church.

8. The Finance Sub-Committee examined an expenditure budget totalling SFr. 6,000,000 proposed by the SEG and also the assumptions underlying that budget and the requests from Programme Units for increased resources which had been covered or had been rejected as not possible if the maximum of SFr. 6,000,000 was to be observed. After full discussion, the Finance Sub-Committee agreed to recommend:

> that the proposed 1973 General Budget totalling SFr. 6,000,000 be approved, noting that on present estimates it might involve a small deficit of perhaps SFr. 50,000 which could be covered from the Special Reserve.

c) Outlook for 1974

9. Whereas the 1973 budget assumes that expenditure will be SFr. 150,000 below the full implied annual level because some positions will be vacant for part of the year, it must be assumed that there will be no savings resulting from vacant posts in 1974. The suggested 1973 budget represents annual expenditure at the rate of SFr. 6,150,000. Adding 5% for inflation would raise the 1974 figure to SFr. 6,457,500. The final figure might be higher: inflation may prove to be more than 5%; there may be increased expense at some points, e.g. General Secretariat; the question will arise again in 1974 of whether we can secure special contributions for Bossey and PCR; the special resources for financing the Bible Secretariat come to an end at

April 30, 1974, so that if the Secretariat is to be continued, it may be necessary to take the expense on the General Budget.

10. There is no known reason to expect an increase in income in 1974. An expenditure budget of SFr. 6,457,500 and income perhaps SFr. 30,000 above SFr. 5,915,000, suggests a deficit of about SFr. 500,000. The balance available on the Special Reserve might be adequate to cover such a deficit, though it could be insufficient if some of the unfavourable possibilities referred to earlier in this report become realities.

d) Outlook for 1975

11. The Finance Committee at Utrecht accepted as reasonable not to seek to look as far ahead as 1975, but it is necessary now at least to take a preliminary look at prospects. There is no reason to foresee any significant increase in income; we are virtually committed to making no general appeal for increased member church contributions before 1976. A provision of 5% for inflation would add about SFr. 325,000 to expenses. If expenses exceed normal income by about SFr. 500,000 in 1974 a deficit of about SFr. 825,000 would appear likely in 1975. Some savings of expense may result from the fact that it is an Assembly year but almost certainly not enough to compensate as much as half of such a deficit.

e) General Comments

12. The Finance Sub-Committee draws attention to the following points:

a) The problem of inflation is now of such proportions as to necessitate re-examination of procedures. For about three years inflation in Switzerland has been about 7% p.a. If income remains stable in figures, the real value of income shows a significant decline.

b) Activities under the General Budget are heavily dependent on the success of efforts to secure extra resources under Programme Project procedures to finance programme activities (see II below).

c) In addition to the need for increased support for the General Budget, there is need to raise $ 500,000 for the Assembly Budget - twice as much as the largest sum ever raised in special contributions for an Assembly in the past.

The Finance Sub-Committee agreed that this group of problems must be submitted, within the framework of the overall financial position, to the Central Committee in Helsinki.

II. Programme Projects

13. Resources are available to finance all expenditure on Programme Projects to the end of 1972. The SEG has reviewed financial needs for Programme Projects in 1973 and, in the light of available and prospective resources, authorized the implementation of those which were judged to have priority claim. The position can be summarized as follows:

a) Projects in respect of which implementation is authorized with the assurance that, in so far as designated support is not assured, the expense will be covered from undesignated resources. Maximum endeavours to secure designated support will nontheless be continued.

Bible Secretariat	SFr.	53,000
Bossey contributions		175,000
Other Swiss franc projects		259,000
Dollar projects	$	35,000

It is hoped that designated support can be secured for the financing of the first two items. There are reasonable grounds for assurance that the remaining projects can be fully financed by a combination of designated support and of allocations from available or prospective undesignated support.

b) Projects in respect of which financial support is fully assured and implementation of project therefore authorized.

Swiss franc projects	SFr.	341,011
Dollar projects	$	94,750

c) Projects approved as a Programme Project on the understanding that no commitments may be entered into in excess of assured designated support.

Swiss franc projects	SFr.	449,970
Dollar projects	$	345,350

d) Plans for three further projects are not yet sufficiently far advanced for costs to be estimated.

14. Two deductions can clearly be drawn from the above figures: it is proving possible to secure substantial supplementary support by the use of Programme Project procedures, secondly, the programme activities of sub-units financed under the General Budget are to a very significant extent dependent on the success of endeavours to raise additional resources under those procedures.

15. The Finance Sub-Committee noted that the financial position in relation to Programme Projects appears satisfactory and referred the statement setting out the decisions of SEG in selecting the projects authorized for implementation to the Priorities Committee.

III. Fifth Assembly Budget

16. No new information has become available to modify the estimates presented in Utrecht that a budget of about $ 950,000 will be needed for the Fifth Assembly, that foreseeable resources amount to about $ 450,000 and that it will therefore be necessary to raise about $ 500,000. The Central Committee called on member churches for contributions. It will be necessary to develop at Helsinki a plan of action to follow up that request and, within the context of total needs, ensure adequate resources for the Fifth Assembly.

IV. Travel Assistance Fund

17. As at Utrecht, time again made impossible a full discussion of the problem of the travel expenses of members of the Central, Executive and other Committees. Concern was expressed at earlier meetings on two points:

a) the initial contributions to the fund came from special resources and it has proved difficult to secure additional contributions; and

b) the Travel Assistance Fund may be exhausted before the Fifth Assembly. Unless new possibilities are found for securing contributions to that fund, it may become necessary even before the Fifth Assembly to make provisions for the expense of travel assistance to Committee members within the General Budget. This would add to the difficulties reported earlier in this report in respect of financing the General Budget, Programme Projects and the Fifth Assembly Budget.

The position is now more worrying because it has still not been possible to secure fresh contributions and the expenses chargeable to the fund in 1972 have proved greater than foreseen in the budget by about SFr. 100,000.

18. This question will be submitted for full discussion by the longer Finance Committee meeting in Helsinki.

Lord March pointed out that whereas the General Budget position for 1973/74 might appear satisfactory, the outlook must give rise to concern if the above four items are considered together and a longer term view taken. He then presented the following further item from the report, arising from a discussion of the adequacy of present financial structures to meet the above problems:

The following points were made during an extended discussion: the financial problems of the coming period are more acute than was generally recognized at Utrecht; inflation has reached such proportions as to call for reconsideration of financial procedures; after a period of uninterrupted growth, the World Council

- like some member churches - now faces a static or declining income in terms of real values; the suggestion of consultations at national, regional and perhaps international levels on financial support and structures of financial relationships was supported; it is essential that finances be brought on to a sound ongoing basis; maximum endeavours are necessary to seek to improve 1974 income prospects before Helsinki; it must be stressed that basic commitment to the World Council must include adequate financial support; the Priorities Committee must be prepared to recommend difficult decisions if the financial position makes this inevitable; unless there is a marked improvement in prospects, the financial problems must be reported at an early point in the Helsinki Central Committee meeting, in the report of the General Secretary or the Chairman or by an early report from the Finance Committee. Concern was expressed that the estimated cost of the Fifth Assembly should be as high as $ 950,000 and it was suggested that alternative plans for a less costly assembly - perhaps $ 700,000 - should be prepared for consideration at Helsinki.

Following the discussion, the Executive Committee AGREED to adopt the recommendations in paragraphs 8 and 21.

Lord March then presented the remainder of the report of the Finance Sub-Committee as follows. By agreement items IX, X, XI and XII were accepted without being read and the other items were presented in full.

V. Finance Committee

19. Prior to the Utrecht meetings, it was recognized that the plans for revised membership of the Finance Committee which were a part of the Structure Committee Report as adopted at Addis Ababa were not appropriate or practical in the light of subsequent developments. It is still not clear what alternative plans should be proposed in substitution.

20. The essential element of the Structure Committee plans was that the Finance Committee should be composed of a majority of Central Committee members plus representation of the three Programme Units and should review the finances of the World Council as a whole in the framework of a composite statement of all needs.

21. It is now planned that at Helsinki the Executive Committee meeting will be followed by three days of Unit Committee meetings before the opening of the Central Committee meeting. The Finance Sub-Committee agreed to recommend:

a) that in August 1973 the Finance Committee meet during the three days when the Unit Committees meet;

b) that the membership be 15 to 20 persons, comprising Central Committee members and persons from the Units and Sub-Units;

c) that the Officers of Central Committee and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee be authorized to name the membership of the Finance Committee for Helsinki;

d) that the position be reviewed again after the Helsinki meeting;

e) that there be in addition a Finance Sub-Committee of Central Committee in Helsinki, to deal with financial questions arising during the Central Committee meeting.

22. The Finance Sub-Committee further feels that consideration should be given to a review of the structure of financial relationships between the World Council and its constituency, possibly by a series of national or regional consultations with those responsible within member churches and their agencies, possibly leading to an international consultation on these questions.

VI. Implementation of Decision regarding Investments in Southern Africa

23. A first list of corporations directly involved in investment in or trade with the six named countries in Southern Africa has been prepared. It covers about 650 corporations in the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the USA. It will clearly be necessary to issue supplementary lists covering other countries and additional corporations. It may be necessary to make corrections to the list.

24. The following steps have been taken to implement the Central Committee action:

a) Two portfolio managers have agreed to continue the management of our portfolios under the limitation imposed by the Central Committee action. They have sold or are selling any holdings in corporations figuring in the first list. They will, from now on, make no purchase of holdings in corporations figuring in that list.

b) One portfolio manager was not willing to manage a portfolio under the limitation imposed by the Central Committee action. That investment portfolio has been liquidated.

c) The small portfolios inherited from WCCE have been handled as follows: holdings in companies figuring in the list were sold before December 31; the separate portfolios are now being liquidated and one of the portfolios referred to under a) above increased to cover the investment of the funds concerned.

Action has thus been taken to ensure that the World Council investment portfolios do not include holdings in corporations figuring in the first list of corporations directly involved in

investment in or trade with the six named countries. The two remaining portfolios will, when present plans have been fully implemented, represent the investment of the General Reserve, the Service Programme Reserve and the WCCE funds.

25. The two managers willing to continue investment portfolios subject to the new restriction have expressed the judgement that it should be possible to achieve a rate of growth higher than normal stock exchange indices and probably higher than money market interest earnings. This can, however, only be a serious professional assessment of possibilities. There is no past experience of the management of portfolios subject to a limitation excluding investments in Southern Africa and only experience can show whether the judgement of our managers is sound. Copies of the first list of corporations directly involved in investment in or trade with the six named countries in Southern Africa were circulated to members of the Committee, and Mr Northam promised to let them have any subsequent lists that were prepared.

VII. Investment Portfolios

26. The Finance Sub-Committee received a report on the performance of the investment portfolios in 1972, which was found satisfactory.

VIII. Relations with banks maintaining direct banking operations in Southern Africa

27. The Finance Sub-Committee reviewed the position in respect of the Utrecht decision that the WCC "deposit none of its funds in banks which maintain direct banking operations in" any of the six named countries. The understanding at Utrecht was that this be interpreted as meaning banks with branches and staff in those countries.

28. The Finance Sub-Committee was agreed that the banking community provides considerable facilities and services which represent support to the white minority regimes of Southern Africa and that actions by WCC comparable to the action on investments must be taken. Concern was expressed at three points: the criterion "maintaining direct banking operations" as interpreted above seems inadequate and unsatisfactory; any action taken must be based on criteria identifying those banks which are more involved than others in assisting the white minority regimes in Southern Africa; before action is taken, an assessment must be made of the effects of the logical implementation of that action on the operations of WCC.

29. The Finance Sub-Committee agreed to recommend:

a) that staff be directed to examine in greater depth the Utrecht decision regarding banks and Southern Africa with a view to seeking to formulate better criteria identifying

those banks more involved than others in assisting the white minority regimes in Southern Africa;

b) that the report also include an assessment of the effects for the operations of WCC of discontinuing operations with banks so identified; and

c) that the implementation of the Utrecht decision be deferred until after that report has been received and acted on at Helsinki.

IX. Commission on World Mission and Evangelism

30. The full Commission met in Bangkok in the week prior to this meeting. Their report is based on the presentation to and the decisions of that Commission meeting.

a) Operating Budget 1972

31. The information available at this early date suggests that in 1972 income will be sufficient to cover expenditure in 1972 under the operating budget totalling SFr. 1,113,550.

b) Operating Budget 1973

32. A 1973 operating budget of SFr. 1,204,550 was authorized at Utrecht. Estimates of 1973 income can at this date only be provisional. It is not yet assured that income will rise to this higher level but if there should be a small deficit, there is a balance of SFr. 475,225 brought forward from 1971 on the Working Capital fund.

c) Operating Budget 1974

33. The Commission at its Bangkok Assembly, affirmed the desirability that all CWME staff salaries and those aspects of the WCC administrative budget in which the CWME shares be included in the CWME operating budget. This might increase the 1974 budget by about SFr. 500,000. Recognizing that it might not be possible to secure such an increase in normal income, the Assembly further recommended that undesignated Programme Askings funds may be voted by CWME to cover portions of the operating budget as needed.

d) Programme Askings

34. Expenditure under Programme Askings has been held within the limits of available resources. Resources totalling $ 400,627 of which $ 200,405 represented undesignated funds, were brought forward from 1971. A similarly satisfactory balance will be carried forward from 1972.

e) Sponsored Agencies

35. The finances of the sponsored agencies - TEF, ACLD and CMC - are in a satisfactory condition.

X. Commission on Inter-Church Aid, Refugee and World Service

36. The Commission reviewed financial operations at its meeting November 22 to 24, 1972. This report is based on the discussion and decisions at that meeting and on information which has subsequently become available. The Commission satisfied itself that operations generally are being conducted within the limits of available resources.

a) Service Programme Operations 1972

37. Recorded expenditure to October 31 indicates that operations are being held within budget level and expenditure for the full year is expected to be within the budget total of $ 2,126,646. Income from contributions is expected to be about $ 1,946,000 and an amount up to $ 139,000 is available from interest; those two items would provide in total $ 2,085,000. If the budget is fully spent, these figures suggest a deficit on the year's operations of about $ 40,000 which could be covered from the balance of $ 81,158 on the "Unappropriated Balance" created out of surpluses in past years. On recommendation from the Commission, the Finance Sub-Committee recommends:

> that any deficit on Service Programme operations in 1972, after applying as income the maximum authorized amount of interest, be covered from the Unappropriated Balance.

b) Service Programme Budget 1973

38. The Central Committee last August authorized a Service Programme Budget for 1973 totalling SFr. 5,167,040 plus $ 840,590. After reviewing the position, the Commission concluded that it might be necessary at the next meeting in June to consider some adjustment within the budget but that operations could be conducted without need to consider any increase in the total amount and, on the other hand, that there were reasonable prospects of resources adequate to finance the approved budget.

c) Service to Refugees

39. After reviewing the position, the Commission concluded that the operations of the Service to Refugees - the largest single item within the Service Programme - could be conducted both in 1972 and in 1973 without calling on the Service Programme for a sum exceeding the budgeted allocations for the Service to Refugees. The Commission authorized one small modification of the 1973 budget for the Service to Refugees.

d) Travel Loan Funds

40. After reviewing the position, the Commission concluded that the position both of the Joint ICEM/WCC Travel Loan Fund and of the smaller WCC Travel Loan Fund can be considered financially sound. The Commission authorized operations in 1973 under the Joint ICEM/WCC Revolving Fund on the basis of loans totalling about $ 489,000 for movements of approximately 1,800 persons and under the WCC Loan Fund on the basis of loans not exceeding $ 125,000.

e) Other Activities

41. The other activities of the Commission involve sums considerably greater than the annual budget for the Service Programme but are generally conducted on the basis that commitments are entered into only after resources have been received or firmly assured. The volume of the funds handled continues to grow from year to year and the proportion for relief and rehabilitation programmes for the victims of emergencies - natural and man-made - such as the Vietnam programme, the Bangladesh programme, relief programmes following earthquakes, floods, etc. also continues to grow.

XI. Commission on the Churches Participation in Development

42. The finances of CCPD have passed through two stages and are now entering a third stage. In the initial period, there was little support and income was insufficient to cover expenses. In the second period, substantial support was received and, since careful and prudent planning was necessary before funds were disbursed, sizable funds were held available, in the hands of the World Council or on call from donors. Activities are now entering a third period in which assured resources have been spent or committed and there will be need to secure further support and to exercise control to ensure that commitments are not entered into in excess of assured support.

43. The Commission met in Barbados December 6 to 8, 1972. It was reported there that total contributions received for the Ecumenical Development Fund to October 31, 1972 amounted to $ 1,558,477 and additional contributions of $ 1,196,300 were awaiting call from the donors.

44. Expenditure in the first 10 months of 1972 amounted to $ 1,006,478. Resources in hand at October 31, 1972 amounted to $ 313,848; of that amount, $ 77,050 represented designated contributions - Technical Services $ 33,050, SODEPAX $ 37,000 and Study Programme, Consultation and Planning Process $ 7,000.

45. Adequate resources are reasonably assured for the financing of the Administrative Budget of CCPD for 1973 and for the provision of programme funds for the four counterpart agencies which have been recognized by CCPD. Additional resources are needed for

financing the infrastructure of the four counterpart agencies but there are reasonable prospects that they may be secured. It will be necessary to await assurance of new support before entering into commitments on the Programme Assistance and Development Education budgets or in relation to the recognition of further counterpart agencies.

XII. Office of Education

46. Progress is being made in establishing a flow of financial support for the work of the Office of Education. There are reasonable prospects that expenses to the end of 1972 will be covered and that sufficient support will be secured for financing the proposed 1973 budget. The adequacy of financial support is, however, not yet fully assured.

a) Expenditure and Income for 1971

47. Expenditure to the end of 1970 exceeded resources by SFr. 115,516, so that a deficit of that amount was brought forward to 1971. Expenditure in 1971 amounted to SFr. 394,944. Income in 1971 was SFr. 486,814, providing a surplus of SFr. 91,870 and reducing the deficit to be carried forward to 1972 to SFr. 23,646.

b) Expenditure and Income for 1972

48. The Office of Education is working on a budget of SFr. 634,811 for 1972. Actual expenses to October 31, 1972 are close to budget level and suggest that expenses for the full year will be roughly according to budget.

49. Income needed for 1972 is thus SFr. 634,811 to cover the budget plus SFr. 23,646 to cover the deficit brought forward from 1971, or in total SFr. 658,457. Income to October 31 amounted to SFr. 296,942. It is, however, considered reasonably probable that income for the full year will be adequate to cover the budget and perhaps the budget plus the deficit brought forward from 1971.

c) 1973 Budget

50. The proposed provisional budget for 1973 amounts in total to SFr. 643,733. At present income of SFr. 555,864 is foreseeable. Endeavours are being continued to secure further support to bring income up to full budget level.

51. The Finance Sub-Committee recommends:

> that the proposed provisional 1973 budget for the Office of Education totalling SFr. 643,733 be approved, subject to review of the situation at the Central Committee meeting in August 1973.

d) General Conclusions

52. Progress is being made in establishing a separate flow of support for the budget of the Office of Education. Further endeavours are necessary to establish an adequate and secure regular income but experience up to the present date appears to confirm the soundness of the decision that the activities of the Office of Education should be handled under a separate budget financed by designated contributions for the support of those activities.

XIII. Ecumenical Centre Properties and Property Adjoining Ecumenical Centre

53. The Finance Sub-Committee considered at length two interrelated problems: whether to continue the endeavour to secure resources (about SFr. 5,000,000) to finance the purchase of the property adjoining the Ecumenical Centre; and the need for additional space in the Ecumenical Centre - a need which would become greater if the use of the building on the adjoining property, presently providing 22 offices - were lost through the sale of the property.

54. Under the authority granted in February 1972, part of the property adjoining the Ecumenical Centre was sold for SFr. 1,400,000. The proceeds were used to cover all expenses for the property - mainly interest - since it was purchased in June 1968. The remainder of the property - about 38,481 m2 of usable land - stands on the books at a cost of SFr. 5,000,000 and could probably be sold at a profit.

55. The Finance Sub-Committee considered: that the task of securing SFr. 5,000,000 for this purpose at this time would be extremely difficult; that, bearing in mind the area of the land on which the present Ecumenical Centre is built, the likelihood that the adjoining property would be needed in the foreseeable future seemed small; and that priority must at this time be given to seeking increased resources for programme and activities and for the Fifth Assembly, rather than for securing property against unknown possible future needs.

56. The Finance Sub-Committee therefore agreed to recommend:

a) that authority be given for the sale of the property adjoining the Ecumenical Centre;

b) that authority be given to the Officers and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee to approve the conditions of sale, if an acceptable offer can be secured before the next meeting.

57. The Finance Sub-Committee concluded that plans must now be made for an extension of the present Ecumenical Centre buildings. After examining various possibilities, it was concluded that

a partial extension of one existing wing would probably represent the most satisfactory solution. Further study will be necessary to develop plans for an extension and decide the size of such an extension. A very preliminary plan which would provide only 47 offices was tentatively estimated as involving costs of SFr. 1,500,000. The Finance Sub-Committee agreed to recommend:

a) that authority be given for plans to be developed for an extension of the Ecumenical Centre building;

b) that the principle be accepted that funds must be secured before the work is undertaken and that the borrowing of money by mortgage to finance an extension of the buildings is not acceptable;

c) that it be foreseen that any profit accruing to the World Council from the sale of the adjoining property (25% of any total profit) be used for this purpose; and

d) that endeavours be made to secure the additional funds needed to finance the building of an extension.

After the presentation of the second part of the report the Executive Committee AGREED to adopt the recommendations in paragraphs 29, 37, 51, 56 and 57.

29. Future meetings

A. Executive Committee

a) Next meeting. The Committee noted that the next meeting immediately prior to the Central Committee in Helsinki would be on 18 August 1973.

b) February 1974. Mr Thomsen reported on invitations to hold the February 1974 meeting in Latin America or the Caribbean.

It was AGREED -

i) that the February 1974 meeting of the Executive Committee be held between 17 and 24 February;

ii) that the Officers be authorized to decide whether the meeting should take place in Latin America or in the Caribbean or, should financial reasons require this, in Geneva.

c) August 1974. It was AGREED that the August 1974 meeting should be held in West Germany on 7 August, immediately prior to the meeting of Central Committee.

B. Central Committee 1974. It was AGREED to recommend to Central Committee that its 1974 meeting be held in West Germany or West Berlin from 8 to 18 August, on the kind

invitation of the German churches.

It was pointed out that the meeting of the Faith and Order Working Committee in Africa was not due to end until 5 August and the proposed dates would therefore create some difficulties for the Commission. In view of the promise to move the dates of Central Committee in order to secure a full attendance of Orthodox representatives the Executive Committee could not see any way of avoiding this difficulty and Dr Vischer was asked to express to his Committee the regret felt by the Executive Committee for any inconvenience that might be caused.

30. China

It was AGREED -

that the Executive Committee, having received a resolution of the Commission on World Mission and Evangelism on China, requests the staff, in consultation with the East Asia Christian Conference, to keep in touch with the programmes initiated by a number of national and confessional bodies to develop a better understanding of contemporary society in China.

31. Report of Sub-Committee on Programme Priorities

Bishop Nichols presented the following report of the Sub-Committee on Programme Priorities:

The General Secretary gave a progress report on the Utrecht directives on priorities as follows:

1. The General Secretary has indicated his intention to design a procedure for Unit and Sub-Unit continuous but internal priority self-study.

2. The other Utrecht priority directives (see Appendix XX, Section V of the Priorities Committee Utrecht Report) are in process of implementation.

Since the General Secretariat is in process of reorganisation a more specific statement on programme priorities must await Helsinki.

We submit the following recommendations:

a) that the General Secretary's request for a Senior Press Officer be approved, subject to the necessary finance being available;

b) that the General Secretary's request that the proposed Addis Ababa provision for two Deputies should be

implemented be approved. (These two Deputies will include in their responsibilities relations with churches and councils, and programme coordination within the World Council.)

c) that the Programme Projects report as contained in the report of the Finance Sub-Committee be received.

The Committee reaffirmed its Utrecht-approved "negotiating style". In effect it will provide:

1. Continuous programme priority self-study by Units and Sub-Units.

2. A review of their recommendations by SEG, providing an in-house overview.

3. A consideration of the raw material and results of this process by the Priorities Committee.

4. The submittal of Priority Committee recommendations (in collaboration with the General Secretary) to the Central Committee and/or the Executive Committee for final action.

It was AGREED that the report of the Sub-Committee on Programme Priorities be adopted.

32. Report of Nominations Sub-Committee

Bishop Sarkissian presented the report of the Nominations Sub-Committee which was adopted as follows:

A. Commission on World Mission and Evangelism:

It was AGREED that the following be appointed to the Committee:

1. Bishop Mortimer Arias, Methodist Church, Bolivia
2. Rev. Carlisle Patterson, Presbyterian, U.K.
3. Eugene Stockwell, Methodist Church, USA

B. Working Committee on Church and Society

It was AGREED that the following replacements be made:

1. Mr Jether Pereira Ranalho, Congregationalist, Brazil, to replace Bishop Almir dos Santos, Methodist, Brazil.

2. Replacements to be appointed for:

Father Gabriel Abdelsayed, Coptic Orthodox Church, UAR

Professor Orlando Fals-Borda, Presbyterian, Colombia

Dr Radius Prawiro, Indonesia

C. Commission on Inter-Church Aid, Refugee and World Service

It was AGREED that the following appointments be made:

1. Vice-Chairman Unit II Committee - Dr Robert V. Moss, United Church of Christ, USA

2. CICARWS representatives to WCC Finance Committee -

James MacCracken, United Presbyterian Church, USA

Charles Sherman, Episcopal Church, Liberia

D. Fund for Reconstruction and Reconciliation in Indochina

The following correction to the minutes of Central Committee, Utrecht, regarding the proposed membership was noted:

5 from the rest of Asia

4. A Korean

E. Programme to Combat Racism

1. It was noted that 2 vacancies had occurred in the Commission on the PCR due to the resignation of Dr Lara Braud (Mexican American, USA) and Dr Eteki Mboumoua (Cameroun). Both will have to be replaced by people of the same background, and names will be submitted to Central Committee at Helsinki.

2. At the 1970 Executive Committee meeting in Geneva it was decided that the Commission on the PCR should consist of 21 members including the Chairman. It has become clear that several geographical areas or countries should be better represented, one of these being Europe. It was AGREED that Rev. B. Locher, a member of Central Committee, be appointed as an additional member of the Commission. It was noted that the Programme to Combat Racism might decide to recommend one or two more members at a later date, and that this would not constitute a financial problem.

F. Commission of the Churches on International Affairs - Executive Committee

It was AGREED that Dr William Thompson (Presbyterian Church, USA) be appointed to replace Mr Irwin Miller (resigned).

G. Unit III Committee

In accordance with the agreement that 5 out of the 60 members of the Committee serve only for 1 year in order to secure a 'renewal' element among the members it was AGREED

that the following be appointed to serve for the year 1973:

1. Miss Bobbi Sykes, Australia
2. Gordon Gray, Presbyterian, W. Europe *
3. Mrs Barbara Tiews, Baptist, USA *
4. Mrs Violeta Morasigan, Presbyterian, Philippines
5. 1 vacancy

*To serve for a second year in view of their outstanding contribution to the work of the Committee.

H. Advisory Committee on Humanum Studies

It was AGREED -

1. that the Humanum Advisory Committee be appointed in accordance with the principles outlined in minute 12 above with the addition of one member with special concern in the field of communications;

2. that the Officers be authorized to approve the list of members including the names of additional members to be proposed by the Executive Committee.

I. Authorization to Officers

It was AGREED that the Officers be authorized to act in the case of vacancies to be filled pending the meeting of Central Committee in Helsinki.

33. Report of Staffing Sub-Committee

The report of the Staffing Sub-Committee was approved in closed session and is circulated separately to members of the Executive Committee.

The Committee also considered a paper by General Simatupang on the more adequate participation of the constituency of the WCC in its life, work and thinking. It was AGREED to adopt a statement of guidelines on "Steps toward Improving the Geographical Balance of the WCC Staff" (Appendix VI).

34. Resignation of Pastor Jens J. Thomsen

Dr Thomas said that the present meeting of the Executive Committee would be the last occasion on which Mr Jens Thomsen would be present as he was leaving the service of the Council. He called upon Miss Webb who proposed the adoption of a resolution of appreciation and gratitude to Mr Thomsen. This was seconded by Bishop Nichols and adopted as follows:

Mr Jens Thomsen has served the World Council of Churches with distinction for some 14 years. Acting for the host church he organized the Central Committee meeting at Nyborg Strand in 1958 and the excellence of the arrangements led to an invitation to him to join the staff to be responsible for the organization of the Third Assembly in New Delhi in 1961. He carried out that task with distinction and the dramatic success of the widespread distribution of the preparatory booklet is in large measure due to his persistent promotion of this project. He then became in 1962 Administrative Secretary of the Division of Inter-Church Aid, Refugee and World Service and served with distinction, notably in building up relations with the supporting constituency and in organizing all meetings and conferences. In 1966, the new General Secretary invited him to become Assistant General Secretary. He rendered distinguished service under Dr. Blake, serving as Secretary of SEG and of the Structure Committee, organizing all meetings of the Central and Executive Committees and undertaking many other duties.

The Executive Committee records its deep and sincere gratitude for his long years of service given with competence, commitment and devotion and expresses its warmest good wishes to him as he returns to continue his vocation in the direct service of his own church.

Dr Thomas then presented Mr Thomsen with a chess table on behalf of the Officers. Mr Thomsen said he was deeply moved by the action of the Committee. During his years with the Council he had developed warm friendships and a sense of deep Christian fellowship both with staff members and with members of the Committee. It was with regret that he left the direct service of the Council but he hoped the coming years would bring him opportunities of continued service to the ecumenical movement as a whole and to the World Council of Churches in particular.

35. Agenda of Executive Committee

Professor Lochman expressed the view that there had been a certain loss of momentum in the Committee which might be partly due to the composition of the agenda. He suggested that at future meetings the written reports from units and sub-units should not be presented orally in full, but should be taken as read, and only points calling for action and discussion brought to the attention of the Committee. Professor Sabev thought it important that the Committee, especially at its February meetings, should continue to receive full written reports from the units but agreed that it was not necessary for these to be read in full. Lord March said this discussion illustrated the need to review the role of the Executive in the new structure. While the Committee should be kept fully informed about the work of the programme units it would help if the staff would pinpoint

specific questions for attention. Bishop Nichols suggested that (a) the written reports should be prefaced by a brief summary of the main points touched upon, and (b) that the General Secretary's report should be expanded in order to clarify at an early stage those matters on which Committee action or opinion was required. Dr Marshall thought the Committee had not so much lost in momentum, but gained in maturity. The really significant change was in the restructuring of the Council and the creation of the unit committees. The effect of this on the work of the Executive Committee would need examination in the light of experience. Bishop Sarkissian suggested that it would be timely for such an examination to take place after the Helsinki meetings. Dr Potter was asked to give further thought to the points raised, in consultation with the Staff Executive Group.

36. Circulation of minutes

After discussion it was AGREED that in future copies of the minutes of the Executive Committee should be circulated to members of Central Committee, the Executive and the Officers having discretion to omit from the body of the minutes matters of a specially confidential nature and to include these in the confidential circulation to members of the Executive Committee which at present applied only to the minutes of the Staffing Sub-Committee.

37. Expression of thanks

Dr Thomas, on behalf of all members of the Committee, expressed warm thanks to Dr M.A. Thomas and members of the staff of the Ecumenical Christian Centre for their hospitality and their concern for the comfort and smooth running of the meeting. He also expressed special thanks to Miss Pauline Webb, Vice-Chairman, who was good enough to take the major share in chairing the meeting in Bangalore and to the General Secretary and other members of executive and secretarial staff who have prepared the meeting and helped to run it; and also to the members and consultants for their active participation and cooperation.

APPENDIX I

CENTRAL COMMITTEE
COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN INDONESIA
ON
THE FIFTH WCC GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Received by the Executive Committee, Bangalore, January 1973
(See minutes, p. 9)

A. After discussing the Executive Committee report on preparations for the Fifth WCC General Assembly, the Central Committee:

Accepted the general plan, consisting of

a. The scope of work related to preparation for the Fifth WCC General Assembly

b. The Structure and Preparatory Committee

c. The Establishment of Local Sub-committees.

Recommended that the churches in Indonesia, the DGI Executive Committee, and the Preparatory Committee in their function as hosts assist and participate in the entire preparation for the WCC General Assembly.

1. The main proposal

1.1. Efforts should be made for full participation by churches in Indonesia during the preparation and especially during the General Assembly.

1.2. This happening should be considered as an opportunity to widen ecumenical understanding among churches and congregations throughout the country and, at the same time, introduce the life and work of Indonesian churches to the churches abroad.

1.3. Arrangements for adequate facilities should be made with special care and should avoid unnecessary luxury.

1.4. Complete translations from the official languages of the Assembly into the Indonesian language are necessary.

1.5. The enthusiasm of Indonesian churches should be manifested in activities. An explanation encouraging churches and congregations to present a souvenir-gift to General Assembly participants as a token of hospitality and enthusiasm as hosts and as a reflection of fellowship in God's Church around the world is necessary.

2. Some notes related to the above proposal

2.1. To foster full participation by all Indonesian churches (WCC member churches and non-member churches) in the General Assembly the Preparatory Committee is requested to assist the

churches gradually through information concerning the Church, the ecumenical movement, and especially the next WCC General Assembly, and also to establish communication with each church from now until the eve of the General Assembly.

2.2. To guarantee full and genuine participation by the churches, the Preparatory Committee is requested to outline activities in which the churches share. On the other hand, all DGI member churches are requested to discuss their participation in the General Assembly in their meetings in the future.

2.3. Because our central and local governments have an insufficient understanding of the churches' existence and activities, all local sub-committees, churches, regional and local councils of churches are requested to consider and outline activities which will provide authorities with information about the existence of the churches and plans for the WCC General Assembly.

2.4. On the Sunday prior to the General Assembly, all congregations are urged to engage in simultaneous prayer. In addition, during the actual General Assembly, congregations are urged to use the Bible study material prepared for the General Assembly. For this reason, the Preparatory Committee is requested to distribute the Bible study material to all congregations from one to two months prior to the General Assembly.

B. The General Assembly Theme

In connection with the preparation for the discussions which will be held in Helsinki in 1973 on the theme of the General Assembly, the DGI Central Committee feels it is necessary to note several matters and suggestions which arose in its meeting.

1. General opinion about several situations should be noted before choosing the theme.

1.1. Indonesia

1.1.1 Among the realities is the fact that a majority of Indonesian inhabitants are Muslims as in countries like Egypt, Iraq, Malaysia, etc. In this matter it is important to avoid the misconception which compares Indonesia with these respective countries, because, Indonesia, as a Pancasila state, has good cooperation between religious groups.

1.1.2 Indonesia is among the countries devoting their energies to development, and in connection with this is the possibility of unrealistic expectation.

1.1.3 In the life of the church in Indonesia, there is also to be found a critical attitude among some churches toward the ecumenical movement.

1.1.4 Although cooperation exists between Christians and Muslims there is a possibility of anxiety toward the ecumenical movement and its efforts while, on the other hand, they display indifference toward Christian service and similar activities.

1.1.5 In the life of the church there is felt a need for spiritual renewal.

1.2. Asia

1.2.1 Because of the backwardness of some Asian countries compared with those in Europe and America, there are serious efforts to be liberated from that situation.

1.2.2 Even Communism at present raises many questions, e.g. how far can one justify anxiety and fear towards Communism, and, on the other hand, how far and in what forms are there possibilities for cooperation with Communists.

1.3. America and Europe

1.3.1 Both in Europe and especially in America a strong polarization exists in society and in the church.

1.3.2 The longing for liberation becomes a powerful stream, creating groups like liberation teams etc.

1.3.3 Spiritual life within the church and missionary efforts seem to be declining.

2. Some suggestions concerning the theme

2.1. God so loved the world (John 3:16)

Reasons for choosing this theme:

2.1.1 It is relevant to ecological problems (the environment is part of the cosmos which is the object of God's love), and it is relevant also to the gap between the rich and the poor (every man, including the poor, is the object of God's love).

2.1.2 It is relevant also to the polarization which now has become a top issue.

2.1.3 It is relevant to racial discrimination (all men, regardless of colour, are equally loved by God).

2.1.4 John 3:16 will help considerably to clarify for the church member as well as for the Muslim the basic attitude of the Christian toward his fellow man, including those of other faiths. They are creatures equally loved by God. In other words, this theme will help create a favourable climate for development, especially in Indonesia.

2.1.5 At the same time the choice of John 3:16 as a theme can become an answer to the criticism of the WCC that it concerns itself with only "horizontal" matters. John 3:16 explains that there is no conflict between the "horizontal" and the "vertical".

2.2. The Truth Makes Free/Liberates (John 8:33)

This theme was suggested because liberation and freedom is a cry of the present world; therefore, it should be noted that:

2.2.1 Freedom without truth becomes an artificial freedom.

2.2.2 Efforts to liberate man from all kinds of bondage like poverty, ignorance, domination, etc., can not be regarded exclusively as a Christian expression. They can also be activities based on humanism.

2.2.3 Freedom becomes true, only when all efforts and services in all fields are the fruit of efforts of man liberated by God in Jesus Christ.

2.3. Seek You First... (Matthew 6:33/Col. 3:1-11)

This theme was proposed largely because of the situation in which people living in the most developed and affluent societies are caught up in discontent and desperation, and, at the same time, the situation in which people living in the underdeveloped part of the world are caught up in unrealistic expectation and are unable to move into the very rapid stream of this century. In both situations the norms and the value of truth and life become vague.

2.4. I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life (John 14:6)

3. Recommendation

Out of the themes mentioned above, the Central Committee is inclined to suggest and propose a theme which centres on the "Truth which liberates". This theme is regarded relevant enough to the situation and expectations in the present world, and especially in Indonesia, not only for the churches but for whole societies which are longing for freedom.

(Unofficial English translation)

APPENDIX II

PREPARATION FOR THE FIFTH ASSEMBLY, 1975

Received by the Executive Committee, Bangalore, January 1973
(See minutes, p. 9)

1. The Central Committee at Utrecht emphasized that the churches should be responsibly involved in the preparation for the Assembly so that the meeting itself could be an occasion for joyful celebration, genuine participation and become a significant step in ecumenical advance. (See Utrecht Minutes, No. 15 and Appendix XIV). It was agreed that further consideration should be given to the theme "in consultation with the churches and with regional and national councils" before arriving at a final formulation of the theme at Helsinki in 1973. During discussions it became evident that at least four thrusts should be kept in mind before arriving at a final formulation. The theme should (a) suggest both openness and invitation, especially as we should be meeting in Indonesia where people of other living faiths, particularly Muslims, are in a majority, (b) provide for maximum cooperation between the wide range of Christian traditions and also between Christians and all other fellowmen, (c) convey a sense of real urgency, and (d) be entirely clear in its witness to our faith in Jesus Christ.

   In his letter to the churches immediately after Utrecht (dated October 31) the General Secretary has conveyed these to the churches while inviting them to take a real share in preparing for the Assembly in 1975.

2. Since then the staff group for Assembly preparation and the SEG have given considerable thought to this matter. During the November week of meetings there was a full morning's discussion among staff members on this subject, mostly concerning the theme and the process of preparation. The SEG recently discussed this matter at considerable length. This memorandum is based on suggestions emerging out of these discussions. The general trend has been to indicate clearer alternatives to formulate the theme, to suggest Biblical passages to undergird the themes, and to look for topics that would enable the participants to relate the churches' concerns to the ongoing work of the World Council of Churches in order that through sensitive involvement, informed understanding, and critical scrutiny, they could commit themselves to selected priorities and new demands in the coming years. A good deal will depend on what kind of Assembly we envisage for 1975, what do we mean by preparation and by whom, and the style of life and the style of work of the Assembly itself.

3. As regards the theme, it will be difficult to get away from the suggested area of freedom, liberation and community. Given the tremendous variety of cultural backgrounds and historic

situations from which the delegates would come, no single formulation can convey the same meaning and sense of urgency to all. The actual wording, of course, should emerge later as we receive the response from the churches, but at the moment, the following seem to be the alternatives: Set Free by Christ or Christ sets us free or Called to Freedom.

The same observation would apply to the selection of Biblical passages. No single text would be adequate to encompass and undergird the enormous variety and the wide dimensions of a world Assembly. Nevertheless, St. Luke, ch. 4:14-21 could be the key Scripture passage as suggested at Utrecht. Here Jesus Christ reads the prophecy of Isaiah declaring liberation of many kinds and, in proclaiming that in him their prophecy is fulfilled, lays it upon the Church to embody in community the liberation he brings. This could be supplemented by texts mentioned in the Utrecht document and also other passages including 2 Corinthians 3:17-18 where liberty is related to the presence and work of the Spirit and to the transfiguration of man into the image of God in Christ.

4. This leads to a more difficult task, viz. the approach to and selection of genuinely significant topics (that are likely to remain contemporary in 1975 also). The Utrecht group had little time to consider this matter. It simply stated: "The committee considered some suggestions in a staff paper (No. 22) and agreed that they covered the ground but that they needed reformulation. We consider that the next Central Committee should finalize the topics in such a way as to ensure that the main concerns of the WCC find a place in the deliberations of the Assembly, formulated in a way which brings out their relevance to the main theme". After considerable reflection and discussion two possible approaches may be examined in the Executive Committee:

The first is to start from a smaller number of broad themes which are of urgent concern to all people and on which Christians may have something distinctive to contribute, e.g. (a) towards a responsible World Society, (b) the Quality of Human life today and tomorrow, and (c) Identity and Community. The internal workings of each section may be so arranged that specific points arising both out of the World Council of Churches' programme and the life of the churches might be creatively related to each other. But it would be enormously difficult to break down such general themes to specific agenda points, and, further, there is also the danger that without clear relation to the ongoing work it would run the risk of remaining mostly an intellectual exercise.

The second approach is to select several of the most significant and promising areas of recent work in the World Council of Churches as concerns of the whole ecumenical movement today, e.g.:

a) Affirming and manifesting the Christian Faith together (drawing on 'Salvation Today', 'Giving an Account of the Hope...' etc.)

b) The Goal of Unity we seek ('Committed to Fellowship', 'Conciliarity Studies' etc.)

c) Commitment to Dialogue with others (Dialogue programme, cross unit studies on ideologies etc.)

d) The Quality of life in the Technological Age (Church and Society, Renewal etc.)

e) Education (Education, the Communication Media, the contribution of Women etc.)
and

f) Towards a Responsible World Society (Human Rights, Racism, Development, etc.)

At first glance this list may look familiar and the disadvantages seem to be obvious. It looks too formal to be fresh and exciting, may force the delegates into the fore-ordained patterns of the Council's structure and, by concentrating too directly on what is already going on, may stifle the emergence of the new. But after careful reflection we are inclined to accept this second approach and the suggested topics - noting of course, that these have to be further refined - at least for two reasons. First, it enables the direct use and follow up of the best of the Council's work since the last Assembly, and second, it gives the churches' delegates opportunity to focus on clearly defined areas. They can examine the work in the light of their own needs, experience and judgement, reject what may be irrelevant after 1975, select and confirm what must go on, and indicate new thrusts which they can then make their own in terms of commitment for ecumenical advance. The crucial question here would be how to relate the continuing priorities to the new demands in the church and the world in the mid-seventies and beyond.

5. The Process of Preparation: Throughout the discussions of the Assembly it has been continously emphasized that the preparatory process is at least as important as the Assembly itself. The Structure Committee wanted the Assembly programme to be flexible and open to what would emerge out of the preparation in the churches. Utrecht has been anxious that the formulation of the theme and the topics should come out of further consultation with the churches. One must note that preparation would go on differently in different cultural settings and that contributions from different parts of the world to the Assembly itself might come in different ways. It should be also recognized that the Bangkok Conference on 'Salvation Today' as well as other smaller consultations before 1975, also must be regarded as part of the preparation for the Assembly. However, in terms of immediate needs, it is necessary for the Executive Committee at Bangalore

to give guidance on a time-table from Bangalore to Helsinki and from Helsinki to Djakarta. The following are some suggestions for the Executive Committee to consider:

(a) Soon after the Bangalore Executive Committee a letter should go from the General Secretary following up the previous one giving perhaps more details and setting a time limit (May 31) for suggestions to come in.

(b) Based on a careful evaluation of the responses received from the churches, regional councils, world confessional bodies etc., Helsinki should settle the question of theme and possibly give indications about Bible studies and topics. This means that Helsinki should have before it a paper based on careful evaluation of the responses coming from the churches.

(c) Soon after Helsinki a select group should meet to reflect on the material related to the theme selected, propose Bible passages for study, and produce, at least in draft form, a brochure which would be formulated in a manner to facilitate the study and discussion in the churches. This group would include writers who could sensitively communicate to congregations. It is hoped that this process would help to bring out some of the burning issues which are the concern of Christians and congregations today.

(d) The staff would also give priority to preparing material on the issues to be dealt with under the topics selected at Helsinki. The emphasis would be on the insights which have been gained from ongoing studies and programmes and the policies and commitments which emerge from them. The process by which these could be agreed on and made available is not yet clear. But, as in preparation for Uppsala, the last date would be the Central Committee in 1974.

(e) Recognizing that the major impact from discussions on the theme would come from the churches, and that the main preparatory work on the topics would be done by the staff, the real challenge will be how to bring the issues arising from the study of the theme into inter-acting relationship with the materials being produced on the topics, and how these will be presented and dealt with at the Assembly.

(f) In view of all this the Executive Committee at Bangalore may have to decide that the Djakarta Assembly in 1975 has top priority and that the preparatory work from Bangalore to Helsinki demands major staff time and that after Helsinki it will be necessary to appoint a staff member full time to deal with the necessary work relating to the theme, topics, Bible studies etc., in preparation for the Assembly.

APPENDIX III

SPECIAL FUND TO COMBAT RACISM

Received by the Executive Committee, Bangalore, January 1973
(See minutes, p. 19)

SPECIAL FUND

Receipts and payments up to November 11, 1972 (Summary) in US $

	Transfers from WCC Reserves	Receipts	Payments	Surplus (+) or short fall (-)
1969	200,000	-	-	(+) 200,000
1970	-	119,507	200,000	(-) 80,493
1971	-	117,304	134,965	(-) 17,661
1972	-	153,322	57,500	(+) 95,822
	200,000	390,133	392,465	
			Balance in hand at Nov. 11, 1972	$ 197,668

Notes: 1) Pledge United Presbyterian Church, USA $ 10,000

2) Included in the payment 1972 is an amount of $ 2,500 to the Free University of Black Studies (U.K.). This organization indicated that it would return the grant because it had failed to act as a leverage.

3) Not included in these figures are the collection by the Churches in the DDR for the Special Fund. During 1971-72 a total of 984,000 Marks were collected. In 1972 487,000 Marks were spent through the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee in the DDR in support of humanitarian projects of liberation movements in Southern Africa.

SPECIAL FUND

Contributions received in 1972 up to 11th November, 1972

(Amounts under $ 100 received from churches and church organizations, and all individual gifts not detailed)

	US $
ARGENTINE	
1 gift	10.-
AUSTRALIA	
Australian Council of Churches (gifts through)	547.-
1 gift	12.-
BURMA	
Burma Baptist Convention	100.-
CANADA	
Canadian Council of Churches (gifts through)	153.-
1 gift	1,004.-
DENMARK	
Ecumenical Council of Denmark (gifts through)	2,817.-
FRANCE	
Mouv. Français Christianisme Social, Strasbourg	156.-
4 gifts	191.-
GERMANY	
Diakonisches Werk Stuttgart (gifts through)	110.-
Diakonisches Werk Württemberg (gifts through)	1,021.-
Evang. Kirche Hessen-Nassau (gifts through)	3,235.-
Evang. Ref. Kirche in Nordwestdeutschland (annual)	3,166.-
Evang. Kirche Kurhessen Waldeck (gifts through)	196.-
Evang. Ref. Kirchengemeinde Lage (Lippe)	398.-
Evang. Oberkirchenrat Stuttgart (gifts through)	906.-
Kirchenkreis Köln-Nord	328.-
Landeskirchenkasse Düsseldorf (gifts through)	3,684.-
128 gifts	3,462.-
HOLLAND	
Generale Diakonale Raad Nederlands Hervormde Kerk	4,721.-
Action "Prepaid Answer"	42,860.-
Self Tax Movement (Action X-Y)	23,535.-
Remonstrantse Broedershap Utrecht	624.-
Ev. Broedergemeente Zeist	3,135.-
3 gifts	116.-
	96,487.-

		US $
continued:	brought forward	96,487.-
ITALY		
Federation de la Jeunesse Ev. Italienne		162.-
1 gift		279.-
LIBERIA		
Lutheran Church in Liberia		400.-
NEW ZEALAND		
New Zealand National Council of Churches (gifts through)		868.-
SWEDEN		
Swedish Ecumenical Council		42,513.-
SWITZERLAND		
Kirchengemeinde Schiers		260.-
HEKS, Zürich		4,011.-
Staff World YWCA		128.-
61 gifts		1,657.-
UNITED KINGDOM		
Congregational Union of Scotland		407.-
Methodist Missionary Society		1,302.-
Iona Community		260.-
Special Appeal U.K. (133 gifts)		3,117.-
U.S.A.		
Howland Community Church Warren, Ohio		150.-
12 gifts		1,321.-
	Total : US $	153,322.-

APPENDIX IV

PROGRAMME TO COMBAT RACISM

Grants from the Special Fund to Combat Racism 1973

Received by the Executive Committee, Bangalore, January 1973
(See minutes, p. 20)

DETAILED LIST OF ALLOCATIONS 1973:

SOUTHERN AFRICA

* African Independence Party of Guinea and Cape Verde Islands (PAIGC)	$ 25,000
* Lutuli Memorial Foundation of ANC.....	$ 2,500
* Mozambique Institute of Frelimo	$ 25,000
* National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA).....	$ 6,000
Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC - South Africa).....	$ 2,500
* People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA)	$ 10,000
* South West African People's Organization (SWAPO)	$ 20,000
* The Revolutionary Government of Angola in Exile (GRAE)	$ 10,000
	$ 101,000

AUSTRALIA

* Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Straight Islanders (FCAATSI)	$ 14,000

LATIN AMERICA

Colombian Foundation for the Defense of Natural Resources and Black Workers	$ 10,000
Native Regional Council of the Cauca (CRIC).....	$ 10,000
	$ 20,000

NORTH AMERICA

USA

All-African News Service	$ 3,000
American Indian Movement	$ 6,000
* Coalition of Concerned Black Americans	$ 6,000
El Paso Education Research Project	$ 5,000
* Malcolm X Liberation University	$ 6,000
A Puerto Rican organization working for economic and social justice (to be named)	$ 6,000
	$ 32,000

Canada

National Indian Brotherhood (on behalf of CREE)	$ 7,500
Indian Brotherhood of the North West Territories	$ 7,500
	$ 15,000

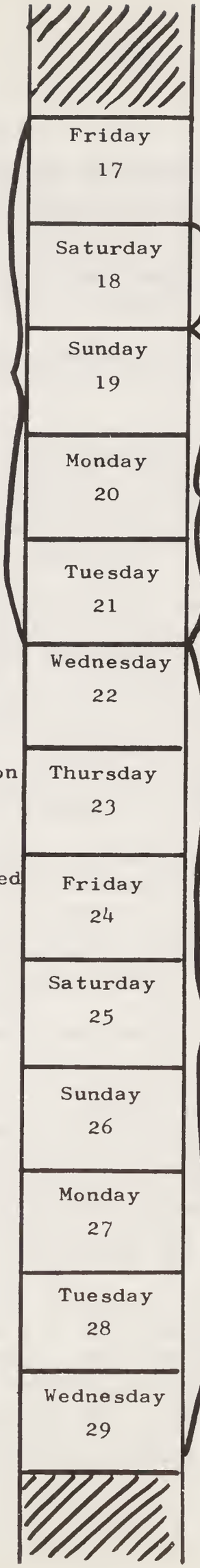
EUROPE

* Belgium Anti-Apartheid Movement	$ 2,000
Comunita d'Agape, Italy	$ 2,500
* Angola Committee and Dr Eduardo Mondlane Foundation, Netherlands	$ 2,000
Swiss Anti-Apartheid Movement	$ 2,000
* Anti-Apartheid Movement, U.K.	$ 2,000
Institute of Race Relations, U.K.	$ 7,500
	$ 18,000

* Movements which received grants before

ENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING -
ELSINKI: AUGUST 1973

APPENDIX V



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

UNIT III COMMITTEE

UNIT I & UNIT II COMMITTEES
FINANCE COMMITTEE

"Main Theme" Presentation
1st Group meetings

Unit Committee Presentation
for action and referral
2nd Group meetings
1st Committee meetings

Unit Presentation continued
Other Presentation to
Plenary
3rd Group meetings
2nd Committee meetings

4th Group meetings
3rd Committee meetings

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Celebrations of 25th
Anniversary of the WCC

/morning: participants attend or preach in local congregations.
afternoon: possible excursion
evening: possible service in Cathedral, or other appropriate plans to be negotiated with Finnish hosts./

Reports to Plenary
4th Committee meetings

Reports to Plenary
5th Committee meetings

Reports to Plenary
Closing service

APPENDIX VI

STEPS TOWARD IMPROVING THE GEOGRAPHICAL BALANCE OF THE WCC STAFF

Adopted by the Executive Committee, Bangalore, January 1973
(See minutes, p. 49)

It was agreed that the following statement on "Steps toward improving the geographical Balance of the WCC Staff" be adopted as a guide to the General Secretary.

'The Staffing and Nomination Sub-Committee received with appreciation General Simatupang's paper "Toward a Minimum Participation of Constituents from All Main Areas in the Life, Work and Thinking of the WCC". Based upon this paper and subsequent discussion the Sub-Committee brings the following proposals to the Executive Committee:

1. The continued imbalance in the WCC staff at all levels - executive, technical, secretarial - with respect to geographical, confessional and cultural background should be corrected as quickly as possible. An immediate practical step to help in correcting this imbalance would be the preparation of two lists (regularly to be brought up to date) which the various Sub-Units of the WCC, the Director of Personnel, and the Staffing and Nomination Committee would have before them when making personnel searches, nominations or appointments. These lists would be:

   a) a list by geographical region, country and church of the staff currently employed at the various levels;

   b) a list of those regions, countries and churches whose representation on the staff at the various levels is either nil or below a level deemed acceptable.

      (It is not, however, advisable to have a quota system as such).

2. The major criterion in appointing an individual is that person's ability to do the job. But the requisite technical, practical or linguistic training for the job need not necessarily be acquired at the individual's own expense of time or money. The WCC should consider the ways in which it can bear part of this cost to a greater extent than at present. As beginning steps two <u>pilot projects</u> might be considered:

   a) together with representatives of the Swiss churches the WCC would approach the Department on Technical Assistance of the Swiss Government and other organizations about the training in Switzerland of technical personnel from outside the North Atlantic area. The training would be followed by a term of service on the WCC staff and a subsequent return to employment in the country of origin (not necessarily

church employment);

b) a scholarship programme under appropriate auspices would be set up to bring ecumenically-minded and promising individuals from churches outside the North Atlantic area to Geneva for a year of work assisting certain executive staff members in their duties as well as learning at first hand about the overall functions of the WCC.

Funds for these projects would need to be sought.

3. There have been cases where highly qualified persons from the Third World have been invited to accept positions on the WCC staff in Geneva but these persons have had to refuse them because their spouses were not permitted to seek employment within their own fields in Switzerland under existing governmental regulations. (And this indeed is one of many reasons for the present unfair under-representation of women on the executive staff.) Continued efforts should be made to get the Swiss Government to view the problem from the point of view of the WCC and other international organizations in Geneva and to change its policy. But unless or until such a change can be made, the WCC should make a concerted effort to find ways in which the spouses of staff members can make use of their skills on a voluntary or part-time basis should they wish to do so.

4. The problem of language should be given ongoing attention. All three official languages are western European, and they are to some extent cognate with each other. This gives a decided advantage to those prospective employees whose mother tongue is one of these three or a language closely related to them, and puts at a decided disadvantage those whose mother tongue is not. Thus western Europeans and North Americans tend to find it easier than others to acquire more than one of the official languages, and they are more likely to have done so as a normal part of their education. But while these facts may help explain the present imbalance at all staff levels, they do not justify it. At the very least candidates from outside the North Atlantic area should actively be sought for jobs on the technical and secretarial levels who have the required competence (or can be aided in acquiring it) and who are already in Europe or can find ways of meeting travel costs to Geneva on their own. Special provision ought to be made for home leave and other normal benefits for such personnel. Finally it should be noted that due care for the language problems in the hiring of staff should not divert attention from the need to re-examine language policy in all activities of the WCC.'